AN

HISTORICAL AND CHRONOLOGICAL DEDUCTION

OF THE

ORIGIN OF COMMERCE,

FROM THE EARLIEST ACCOUNTS.

CONTAINING

AN HISTORY

OF THE

GREAT COMMERCIAL INTERESTS

OF THE

BRITISH EMPIRE.

TO WHICH IS PREFIXED,

AN INTRODUCTION,

EXHIBITING

A VIEW OF THE ANCIENT AND MODERN STATE OF EUROPE;

OF THE IMPORTANCE OF OUR COLONIES; AND OF THE COMMERCE, SHIPPING, MANUFACTURES, FISHERIES, &c.

OF

GREAT-BRITAIN AND IRELAND;

AND THEIR INFLUENCE ON THE LANDED INTEREST.

WITH AN

APPENDIX,

CONTAINING

THE MODERN POLITICO-COMMERCIAL GEOGRAPHY OF THE SEVERAL COUNTRIES OF EUROPE.

CAREFULLY REVISED, CORRECTED, AND CONTINUED TO THE PRESENT TIME.

IN FOUR VOLUMES.

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MDCCLXXXVII.



AN

HISTORICAL AND CHRONOLOGICAL DEDUCTION

OF THE

ORIGIN OF COMMERCE,

FROM THE EARLIEST ACCOUNTS, &c.

EIGHTEENTH CENTURY.

Succession of PRINCES *in this Century.*

Emperors of Germany.

- LEOPOLD, to 1705
- JOSEPH, his eldest Son, to 1711
- CHARLES VI. his Brother, to Oct. 20. 1740
- CHARLES VII of Bavaria, to 1745
- FRANCIS of Lorraine, to 1765
- JOSEPH II. King of Hungary and Bohemia, to

Emperor of Russia.

- PETER, the Great, to 1724
- KATHERINE, to 1727
- PETER II to 1729
- ANNE (of Courland) to 1740
- JOHN (an Infant) deposed 1741
- ELIZABETH, to 5th of January 1762
- PETER III (of Holstein) to 1762
- CATHERINE II. to

Kings of Great Britain.

- WILLIAM III. to 1702
- ANNE, to 1714
- GEORGE I to 1727
- GEORGE II. to 1760
- GEORGE III. 25th Oct. to

Kings of Sweden.

- CHARLES XII. to 1718
- ULRICA, his Sister, to 1720
- FREDERIC, of Hesse, to 1751
- ADOLPHUS FREDERIC, to 1771
- GUSTAVUS III to

Kings of France.

- LOUIS XIV to 1715
- LOUIS XV. his Great Grandson, (crowned in 1722,) to 1774
- LOUIS XVI. to

Kings of Denmark.

- FREDERIC IV. to 1730
- CHRISTIAN VI. to 1746
- FREDERIC V to 1766
- CHRISTIERN VII. to

Kings of Poland.

- AUGUSTUS II. to 1733
- AUGUSTUS III to 1763
- STANISLAUS AUGUSTUS II to

Kings of Spain.

- PHILIP V. to 1746
- FERDINAND VI. his Son, to 1759
- CHARLES III. his Brother, to

Kings of Portugal.

- PETER, to 1704
- JOHN V. his Son, to 1704
- JOSEPH, his Son, to 1777
- MARIE and DON PEDRO, to

Kings of Prussia.

- FREDERIC I. the first King, Jan. 1701, to 1713
- FREDERIC WILLIAM II. his Son, from 1713, to 1740
- CHARLES FREDERIC III. his Son, to 17 6
- FREDERIC IV. Nephew to Frederic III. to

THE CHARACTER OF THE EIGHTEENTH CENTURY.

1701 POSSIBLY some may judge it superfluous to draw the characteristic of the age we live in: yet as it is merely our province to treat of its commercial state, we hope to be excused in briefly observing, that much might be said to distinguish this century even from that immediately preceding it, and much more from remoter ones, were it not that the entire scope of this part of our work renders such a task quite superfluous.

After the airy hopes, prospects, and expectations of all the preceding century, and of half of the present one, concerning new discoveries of shorter courses to the rich Asiatic countries, either by the north-west or north-east supposed passages; and after so many repeated attempts, more especially by British subjects, there seemed now and for some time past to be a general acquiescence of the impracticability of either of those supposed passages.

 Concerning

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1701 Concerning that by the north-weft, it has been already remarked, that although we have had fome probable figns and tokens from feveral of the explorators, that there is a communication either above or under ground, between the great bay of Hudfon and the feas of Northern Afia; yet, that probably fuch a paffage, even though above ground, may be in fo frozen a climate as to be quite impracticable. The fame may be juftly remarked of the more than barely fuppofed north-eaft paffage: fince though it feems now to be admitted that the fea of Nova Zembla communicates with the Afiatic one of China and Japan, yet the firft-named fea, and alfo the Streights of Waygatz, being more than once in vain attempted, thofe icy feas feem to have put an end to all further attempts that way. It is indeed faid, and perhaps with fome probability, that from fome remote north-eaft parts of Ruffian Tartary, lefs frozen than the other feas, a naval communication may hereafter be found practicable with the feas of China and Japan: but what would that avail even to Ruffia itfelf, and much lefs the reft of Europe, if the merchandize of China, &c. can be brought cheaper by long-fea to Europe, as at prefent, than by fo long and rugged a land carriage as from North-eaftern Tartary to the ports of Archangel or Peterfburg. The fouth-weft paffage to India, round the further point of South America, has already been practifed thirteen times from Europe; but to no avail for an Afiatic commerce, much eafier, fafer, and fooner carried on by the common route. The difcoveries, made long fince, of the coafts of New Holland, New Zealand, and New Guinea, of what benefit have they ever been to the Dutch, their principal difcoverers: fo far has the Dutch Eaft India Company been from fettling thofe countries, though lying not far fouth of their Javan and Molucca territories, that, if Colonel Purry's narrative be true, his fingle propofal for their fettling on them, (elfewhere related) occafioned his being obliged to leave Holland. Either that company thought, as others have likewife:

Firft, That they are already poffeffed of more territories than they can well manage; or, elfe,

Secondly, They apprehended, that their further difcoveries there might excite other European nations to attempt fettlements thereon, who might prove dangerous neighbours to them: or,

Thirdly, That new Spice Iflands and countries might thereby be difcovered, which would undoubtedly depreciate the old ones, and which alfo might fall into the hands of other nations: or,

Laftly, That their own people of Java, &c. might be tempted to defert them, for thofe new countries. But although thefe might be plaufible reafons with that company, they can be none to other European nations for not attempting fettlements on thofe coafts; which, fooner or later, may probably be effected, more efpecially as they are not quite deftitute of certain of the neceffaries of life, nor of human creatures, who, perhaps, may be more numerous in the inland parts, where neceffaries may likewife more abound, and, perhaps alfo, the more precious metals and gems, and various other materials for commerce.

Africa's inland and more centrical parts are at prefent lefs known to all Chriftendom than they were to Carthage two thoufand years ago. Hints have been given in our own times, by different authors, of its being practicable to form a correfpondence, and even to make fettle-

ments

A. D. 1701 ments there, by means of the great river Niger, or Senegal, where the precious metals, ivory, and many drugs, &c. are confidently said to abound.

The independence of America will be a most important object of commercial consideration in the course of this century; and the new position in which Ireland stands, in consequence of the repeal of the declaratory act of George I. relative to the legislation of that kingdom, will claim a very particular attention. The change that has taken place in the British oriental possessions will be an object of considerable magnitude: the voyages of Captain Cooke and other circumnavigators will afford materials very interesting to commerce; while the commercial alliance with France, and other beneficial regulations, &c. respecting the trade of the British empire, will compose a distinguished feature of the concluding part of this history.

Commerce is a mistress more eagerly courted by almost all nations in our age than in any preceding one: and it is highly probable, that, even before the conclusion of the present century, many new lights may be struck out for the further improvement of it: more especially as our nobility and landed gentry are, at length, clearly convinced, that the increase of our national commerce is in effect, but another phrase for expressing the advancement of the landed interest, wealth, and felicity, of Great Britain and Ireland.

There were two particular points in the act of the ninth and tenth of King William, before-mentioned, under the year 1698, For settling the East India Trade, which proved afterwards extremely embarrassing, viz.

I. The giving leave to all corporations (the Bank of England excepted) to subscribe in their corporate capacity; by which permission the old East India Company got into the new one in the manner already related.

II. The inserting the words, or any, after the word all, in the clause of that act, giving the King a power to incorporate the contributors into a Joint-stock Company: thereby leaving room for some of the contributors of the General Society (as proved actually the case) to decline coming into the new Joint-stock Company, and, instead thereof, to go on as separate traders to India.

Both which points might easily have been prevented, especially that which is first-named; as an equivalent might have been assigned to the old company for their forts, privileges, &c. and the separate traders might also have been bought off, they amounting only to seven thousand two hundred pounds principal, with their annual fund of five hundred and seventy-six pounds at eight per cent. who chose to trade on the bottom of that act solely and separately: whereby the capital stock of this new corporation was in fact but one million nine hundred and ninety-two thousand eight hundred pounds, and their annual fund but one hundred and fifty-nine thousand four hundred and twenty-four pounds. Which separate traders did afterwards give much trouble to the new company, till by a law of the next reign we shall see an end was put to them, and both companies consolidated into the present United Company of Merchants of England trading to the East Indies.

In this same year, the party humours were become more fierce between the two East India Companies; it being about the time that a new Parliament was to take place. Both companies strove to gain the court as well as the new members of the House of Commons.

 The

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1701 The ſpirit of this time may in ſome meaſure be ſeen, by many warm pamphlets then publiſhed; ſuch as, "The Freeholders Plea againſt Stock-jobbing of Elections of Parliament "Men. Quarto, 1701. The Villainy of Stock-jobbers detected, &c. Quarto, 1701." And many more. And at the two coffee-houſes, near the Royal Exchange, which ſtill retain the names of Garraway's and Jonathan's, affairs were in thoſe pamphlets made ſo important, as to be ſaid then to prepare and direct the greateſt buſineſs of the nation. Both companies were at this time reckoned to have no leſs than ſixty ſhips at ſea; and great was the emulation at their public ſales. Theſe conſiderations made the government ſee the abſolute neceſſity of compoſing their fierce contentions by a coalition, which was at length complied with, though not formally concluded before King William died.

We have already mentioned the eſtabliſhment of a new council of commerce by the French King, in the year 1700; and we ſhall now ſee how great a progreſs this famous new inſtitution had made in little more than about one year after its eſtabliſhment, in order to arrive at a perfect knowledge of the true commercial intereſts of France. All which we have gathered from the memorials of this council preſented to the King's royal council, in this year 1701: and, as it will diſplay the great judgment, zeal, and diligence of that council and nation at this time for the improvement of their commerce and colonies, it will, alſo, afford us many very uſeful and intereſting hints and notices, for putting us on our guard againſt the growing commerce of ſuch an active and enterprizing people.

Fas eſt et ab hoſte doceri.

——— Nothing more fit.
Than from her enemies to learn wit.

I. In their memorial concerning their Guinea Company and their Weſt India colonies, they give us the then preſent ſtate of their American iſlands, &c.

"They juſtly remark, that the commerce to Guinea has ſo cloſe a relation to that of their "Weſt India iſles, that the latter cannot ſubſiſt without the former." And we need ſcarcely add, that this remark holds equally juſt with reſpect to our own Guinea and Weſt India trade.

"By thoſe trades," ſays this new council, "we have deprived our competitors in traffic "of the great profits they drew from us." Meaning our ſugar, cotton, and ginger trade. "And may put ourſelves into a condition, by their example, to draw profit, in our turn, from "them; and eſpecially from the Engliſh.

"That we may increaſe thoſe trades conſiderably; as that nation," *i. e.* England, "in "their iſlands, with leſs advantage than we, and in territories of leſs extent, as well as in "much leſs time, have found means to employ annually above five hundred ſail of ſhips, "whilſt we do not, without great difficulty, employ one hundred in the ſame trade.

"Every one is ſenſible of the benefits of navigation; and that the happineſs and glory of a "ſtate very much depend on it." No one is ignorant, that the navigation of France owes "all its increaſe and ſplendor to the commerce of its iſlands. And that it cannot be kept up "nor enlarged otherwiſe than by this commerce, which is more beneficial than all others of "the long voyages which are undertaken by the French; becauſe carried on without the exportation of money, as well as without the aid of foreign goods and manufactures; ſo as "none but the ſubjects of France reap the profit of it."

The

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1701 The confiderable linen manufacture of France, enabled the French memorialift to make this remark: and it is to be hoped, Britain and Ireland will foon be enabled at home to fupply the fortments of linen drapery for our Weft India ifles.

Next follows a brief reprefentation of the prefent ftate of the French American ifles, viz.

" 1. The fmall ifland, with the terra firma of Cayenne" (on the coaft of Guiana, in about five degrees of north latitude) " comes firft in view. Its coafts are about fixty leagues in ex-" tent; though not above twelve are inhabited.—Its foil very good, and its fugars near equal " to the white fugars of Brafil.—It has not above fix hundred white people, and about two " thoufand negroes. So that this large tract of land is almoft uninhabited.—And being fitu-" ated in very near the parallel of the Moluccas, where the fine fpices grow, it is believed it " might be eafy to cultivate them there; and thereby fave the purchafing of them from the " Dutch. The rather, in that the Portuguefe, on this fide of the river of Amazons, in a fitu-" ation more diftant from the equinoctial line, have cinnamon." This, however, is of a baftard kind, and worth very little.

" 2. Granada, near Martinique, is about twenty-five leagues in circuit. Its white inhabi-" tants about two hundred, and negroes fix hundred: produces fugar, excellent indigo, cot-" ton, &c. Its foil is good, and the colony might be confiderably augmented.

" 3. Martinique, or Martinico, is the principal colony.—About fixty leagues in circuit; " has a good foil, abounding in fugar and cocoa, with fome indigo, cotton, &c.—It had " formerly three thoufand five hundred men bearing arms, and fixteen thoufand negroes."— Now, in our days, thought to have more than quadruple that number.—" It has three good " harbours, feveral good roads for fhipping, and two fmall unwalled towns, with a good fort " at Cul de fac Royal." How vaftly is this ifle improved and fortified fince that time.

" 4. Guadaloupe has a pretty good foil, producing fine fugar, cotton, and ginger.—It is " not peopled;"—(how different is the cafe in our days, as we have very lately experienced)— " though it had formerly one thoufand five hundred men bearing arms, and eight thoufand " negroes.

" 5. The foil of Marigalante is pretty good. It produces fugar, indigo, cotton, and gin-" ger. It was taken in the laft war by the Englifh, who afterward abandoned it; though it " has not been able to recover itfelf; having as yet but three or four fugar plantations.

" 6. Santa Cruz had formerly fix hundred men bearing arms, and many fugar plantations. " It was abandoned laft war, becaufe difficult to be kept, and its inhabitants tranfported to St. " Domingo. Yet this ifle is a very good one, producing fugar, indigo, and cotton; has a " good and fafe harbour, and a very good bafon for careening of fhips." The French have fince fold this ifland to the King of Denmark for near feventy thoufand pounds fterling money, according to fome accounts.

" 7. The laft colony is St. Domingo, or Hifpaniola; about five hundred leagues in cir-" cuit. The one half of it is poffeffed by France, from Cape Francois to the ifle of Vaches, " and the Spaniards have the other half." (We have elfewhere related how France firft fet-tled here.) " At Cape Francois there is a good port, nine hundred men bearing arms, and " two thoufand negroes.—Leogane's diftrict is confiderable.—It is the feat of the French go-" vernor and fovereign courts.—It had two thoufand men bearing arms, and fifteen thoufand " negroes.—Petit Guavis has a good port; had fix hundred whites, and two thoufand negroes. " —There are fome other ifles," fays this Council, " as Les Haintes, St. Martin, and St. " Bartholomew; but of very little importance, and almoft uninhabited."

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1701 After reflections on those isles being badly conducted by a company, and of the selfishness, &c. of exclusive companies in general, they add, "it is not the Canada Company's fault too, "that that colony is not entirely ruined. It is," say they, "a most certain maxim,—That "nothing but competition and liberty in trade can render commerce beneficial to the state. "And that all monopolies, or traffic appropriated to companies exclusive of others, are in-"conceivably burthensome and pernicious to it." Next they condemn "the Guinea Com-"pany, as enhancing the price of negroes.—And that, in time of war, like the dog in the "manger, they would neither carry negroes from Guinea themselves, nor suffer others so to "do, being possessed of exclusive powers.—That the many prizes taken during the last war "from the English, have shewn to France how rich and useful that commerce is.—Where-"fore they urge the abolition of all companies.—Also the lowering the duty on sugar, and the "permitting of French ships to carry that commodity to foreign ports directly." (Both which, to our cost, has been since effected.) "About forty years ago," (*i. e.* about the year 1661) says this memorial, "the French were little versed in commerce and navigation: it "was therefore then thought necessary to form companies, for engaging them to beat out "tracks of commerce for the King's subjects, which then were unknown to them.—Yet such "exclusive grants ought only to be for a limited number of years." (Several such, however, do exist in France even to this day.) They go on to inveigh against such exclusive grants; such as,

"First, That to the port of Marseilles, having the sole trade to the Levant.

"Secondly, The East India Company.

"Thirdly, The prohibiting of foreign raw silk to be carried to Nismes, Tours, Paris, &c. "till it had passed through Lyons; thereby tending only to make it dearer.

"Fourthly, Divers farms of certain merchandize in trade, &c. destructive to the freedom "of commerce."

In treating of the trade of France to Spain, we learn the infinite quantity of merchandize of all kinds then carried thither.—Concerning which country, (Spain) they truly remark, "that "the Spaniards, who have within themselves wool, silk, oil, wine, with an excellent soil, "producing many things proper for the sustenance of life, and for the establishing of noble "manufactures; and are in no want of good ports both in the Ocean and Mediterranean, "do, nevertheless, neglect all those advantages.—Whence it follows, that they stand in need "of the assistance of other nations, who thereby exhaust her of her gold and silver, and fetch "away her raw materials for their own manufactures; as the raw silk of Valencia, Granada, "Murcia, &c. to France.—The wool of Castile, Arragon, Navarre, Leon, &c. to England, "Holland, France, and Italy; for the very manufactures with which they afterwards supply "Spain.—That, in return for the French manufactures, &c. shipped for Cadiz, and thence "in the galeons to Peru and Mexico, they have cochineal, indigo, Vigonia wool, hides, &c. "and (in peaceable times, over and above, before the last wars) they received in money a ba-"lance of eighteen or twenty millions of livres, and by the flotas seven or eight millions "more.—But," say they, "for some years past, since the English, Dutch, Hamburghers, "and others, have imitated some of our manufactures, it is certain that our returns," (*i. e.* the balance in favour of France) "are reduced to a small matter.—They wish his Catholic "Majesty" (King Philip V.) "would lay aside entirely the Spanish garb," (which is never altered) "and introduce French fashions;" (this has been a harvest to France in almost every country

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1701 country of Europe) " and abolish the use of English bays, so much worn in the Spanish do-" minions, both in Europe and America, &c. for the benefit of France."

In speaking of the French Levant trade, they say, " that the English carry on that trade " with much more advantage than the French, their woollen cloths being better and cheaper. " The English also carry to the Levant, lead, pewter, copperas, and logwood, which are " goods they are masters of; together with a great deal of pepper; and, that they may not " drain their country of its gold and silver, they also take in dry fish of their own catching, " sugar of their own colonies, and other goods of their own product, which they sell on the " coasts of Portugal, Spain, and Italy, for pieces of eight, which they carry to the Levant to " make up a stock sufficient for purchasing their homeward cargoes.—Upon this plan, it would " be more advantageous for France to permit her ports on the ocean to carry on this trade di-" rectly to the Levant, without being obliged, ever since the year 1669, to unlade at Mar-" seilles on their return, under pretence of preventing their bringing in the plague; which " has obliged them to relinquish that trade entirely. And by the edict of 1685, twenty per " cent. was laid on all Levant merchandize imported, for preventing the western ports from " being supplied therewith, as they had before been, from England and Holland.—Thus " Marseilles alone thrives in this commerce; although by its being a free port,—by its nearer " situation to the Levant, and by her settled correspondence there,—Marseilles would always " have advantages enough over the ports of the ocean, without the distasteful and impolitic " exclusive trade."

To all which the Deputy from Marseilles replied,

First, " The towns on the ocean can neither in themselves, nor in their neighbourhood, " find consumption for divers gross merchandize which the Marseilles ships are obliged to " take in for making up their lading.

Secondly, " The duty of twenty per cent. was laid, as above, for preventing the English " and Dutch Levant goods from being run into France, by the ports of Dunkirk and " Rouen.

Thirdly, " Marseilles has within herself and her neighbouring provinces, all kinds of ma-" nufactures and assortments proper for the Levant trade, &c." To this the Deputies from the ports on the ocean replied, by denying most of the allegations of Marseilles. And so the dispute ended for that time.

We have too much ground to lament the great increase of the French Levant commerce, and the decrease of our Turkey Company's commerce, since the Memorial of that Council.

This new board further represented to the King's Council, (after declaring, that it was no derogation from nobility—*i. e.* in the English sense, from being a gentleman,—to be a whole-sale merchant, though not a retailer; and that gentlemen, who are merchants, should for the future in all assemblies precede other merchants.) " That the appellation of Merchant being " too general and extensive," (Marchands, in France, signifying retailers, as well as what we in England properly call merchants: as, marchand-drapier, for a woollen-draper, &c.) " it " is necessary to settle a distinction;—and that those who trade by wholesale by sea or land, " be named Negociants, and that retailers only be called Merchants: and no retailer to take " the name of Negociant, under a pecuniary penalty; and a like penalty on mechanics stiling " themselves merchants."

That board further proposed, " the suppressing the duty of fifty sols per ton, as far as con-" cerns the shipping of the northern crowns, thereby to allure them to trade with France, on

" as

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1701 " as advantageous a footing as the Dutch do, who had that duty remitted by the peace of " Ryfwich. That the principal end for laying on that duty, was, to confine the coafting navi- " gation to French fhipping alone, which had before been wholly carried on by foreign bot- " toms, much to the prejudice of France. But as it alfo affected the voyages of the Englifh " and Dutch to France, thofe two nations were obliged to lay a like duty on French fhips " coming into their ports.

" It was very provident of the Dutch to obtain a remiffion of that duty, feeing, by the " French cuftom-houfe books it appeared, that the Dutch had poffeffion of almoft all the " commerce of France to thofe northern nations: that duty, before the Dutch were exempt- " ed, yielding feven hundred thoufand livres yearly, but now only one hundred thoufand.— " That the moderate duties in Holland gave the Dutch confiderable advantages; as does alfo " their good hufbandry in their navigation, fcarcely imitable by any other nation. Thus do " they retain navigation and trade to themfelves, and get into their hands the effects of other " nations, felling them again to great profit. By fuch methods they have made their pro- " vinces the ftorehoufe of Europe, from whence other nations are obliged to furnifh them- " felves." (A good view this of the grounds of Holland's being fo great a ftorehoufe.) " In " brief, the Dutch having thus made themfelves mafters of the inland trade of France, by the " help of Refugees," (fettled in Holland) " and by commiffions from the new converts," (*i. e.* the Proteftants of France profeffing the Catholic religion) " and the factors they have in all our " ports, they there fell goods cheaper than even the wholefale merchants of France can do; " and are enabled to fupply the French retailers as well as the northern nations, with affort- " ments of goods. So that, whilft this is the cafe, no wholefale bufinefs can be managed by " the French, nor any great commerce carried on directly between the French and the nor- " thern nations.

" For all which reafons, this board propofes, to fupprefs the faid duty of fifty fols " per ton.

" Or elfe, to prevent the entrance into France of all commodities of the north, which fhall " have been before landed in any other country, and fhall not be brought hither directly from " the place of their growth or manufacture."

To all which the Deputies from Nantes replied:

" That the Hollanders trade to the Baltic was fo well fettled, that they will ever govern the " prices of all merchandize going to, or coming from, the north. Becaufe, carrying thither " their own manufactures and merchandize, and efpecially their fpices, of which the northern " people are very fond, they can afford to take off the corn, timber, iron, copper, flax, " hemp, &c. of the north, at high rates, and yet they are generally cheaper at Amfterdam " than in the places they are brought from; becaufe of the great gains they" (the Amfter- dammers) " make by the affortments they carry to the north.—And the Dutch commerce to " Portugal is likewife on the fame footing. For thefe, and fuch-like reafons," faid the Nan- tois, " we fear we cannot depend on our being regularly fupplied with every thing regularly " from the north.—The Dutch, moreover, take off very great quantities of our wines and " brandies, which they brew, mix, and fit to the tafte of the northern people.—Thefe reflec- " tions are applicable to Hamburg as well as Holland, which city is likewife a ftaple or ftore- " houfe for all the trade of the north, and is ufually very helpful to us in taking off our " commodities, and in fupplying us with what we want. Another powerful reafon is, the

" frequent

A. D. 1701 " frequent alteration of our coin, which abfolutely prevents foreigners from fending us their " fhips and merchandize."

To all which, the other Deputies of this board replied, in fubftance:

" That it was plain thofe of Nantes owned the evils complained of; particularly, that the " retailers in France carry on a difadvantageous trade with the Dutch.—And that it is certain- " ly more fure and profitable to us to fell our goods at home, than to carry them to the nor- " thern people to fell. In the firft cafe, it is we who give the law; in the other, we receive " it.—No merchant is ignorant of the effects of this difference; the one being ever profitable; " the other very uncertain, and often very pernicious, and the common fource of bankrupt- " cies." They add, a little further: " We have heretofore feen five thoufand foreign fhips " come into the kingdom to take them off," (*i. e.* the native product of France,) " but our " being deprived of trade with the Englifh, and our duty of fifty fols per ton, have interrupt- " ed this great commerce."

Yet, with this otherwife fagacious Board's leave, that feeming advantage of foreigners coming to fell their goods in our ports, is really but a fhort-fighted one; fince the advantages accruing to a nation:——

I. By the freight of fhips which carry out their own, and which go to fetch the goods of other nations.

II. By the immenfe quantity of provifions confumed therein.

III. By the many trades and workmen fupported by fitting out the fhips.

IV. By the nurfery of failors, and, in confequence, the increafe of naval power, which thofe five thoufand fhips would produce, were they French, are of infinitely greater advantage than that one confideration by them before-named. It muft, however, be admitted, that as moft of the merchandizes of France are perifhable, this pofition of their new Board of Commerce, is, perhaps, more applicable to France than to any other nation in Europe.

In further anfwer to thofe of Nantes, this new Council of Commerce " difallows, that " corn and other commodities of the north are fold cheaper in Holland than in the places " from whence they are fetched.—For," fay they, " this never happens but when the quan- " tities imported into Holland are fo large that they exceed the confumption or demand for " them: in this, therefore," fay they, " there is nothing extraordinary, being the cafe every " where elfe.

V. " As they plead only for having the northern goods brought in alone, and directly from " the places of their growth and manufacture, without being firft landed in any other coun- " try, they cannot believe that the Dutch will, on France's making fuch a regulation, fuffer " above four thoufand fhips, which they employ between France and the northern nations, " to lye rotting in their ports:—But rather than not be employed, will let them fetch the nor- " thern merchandize directly from thence into the ports of France, as now propofed."

Befide the faid objections of the Deputy of Nantes, he of Marfeilles urged, " That the " voyage from Dantzick, or even from Copenhagen, to Marfeilles, is too long for a fhip to " go and come with certainty in one feafon, confidering the ice, and the long nights: and " that therefore there is no avoiding the ufe of *entreports*," (*i. e.* middle-way, or half-way ports) " for the trade of Marfeilles."—This remark puts us in mind of what we noted in the preceding fixteenth century, concerning Antwerp's fitnefs for the general ftaple, ftore-houfe, or *entreport* for the commodities of both the northern and fouthern nations, founded on this

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1701 objection touching Marfeilles, that the voyage from the Baltic to the Mediterranean, and back again, in the fame fummer, is rather too long to be certainly or generally relied on.

The Deputy from Bayonne objected, " That their commerce with their neighbours of " Spain, could not be continued in competition with the Dutch, had they not the liberty of " fupplying themfelves from *entreports* at feafonable times, as they have occafion, with wax, " cocoa nuts, &c."

The Deputy of Nantes, among other things, further replied, " That it is to be feared this " novelty may confirm the Englifh in their obftinacy of continuing their high exclufive duties " on French goods. And that while that commerce fubfifted with England," (for at this " time the near approach of a war interrupted it) " we" *i. e.* the French, " conftantly fur- " nifhed them with the merchandize of France, to the value of many millions more than we " confumed of theirs. He alfo further urged againft this propofed regulation, the confidera- " tion already mentioned, that the merchandize of France are almoft all perifhable; and that " therefore we cannot be too circumfpect for cultivating a good underftanding with foreign na- " tions, which furely is not to be done by prefcribing laws to them."

This new French Board of Trade next juftly inveigh againft the practice of their grand mo- narch, " of granting monopolies or farms to particular perfons, to be the fole venders of cer- " tain commodities; as being moft ruinous to trade. As,

I. " Lead from England; which fupplied their own wants, and with which France alfo " fupplied Spain, Portugal, Italy, Switzerland, the Levant, and the French Weft Indies; " granted folely, as to fhot, to one perfon.

II. " The fole making, furnifhing, and diftributing of faltpetre and gunpowder.

III. " Other monopolies for provifions, &c. Thefe," fay this board, " make themfelves " mafters of all the good branches of trade, by means of their privileges, to the great prejudice " of the public. And we are of opinion, that it is for the good of the ftate to fuppress them " all.—And to lay open thofe branches of trade, whereby our navigation will increafe, and the " King will receive much more duties than thofe he gets by the monopolies."

Thus this otherwife fagacious monarch, for the fake of an immediate fum advanced by the monopolifts and farmers, occafioned incredible hurt to many thoufands of families, and the " real lofs of much commerce to his kingdom: which practice he neverthelefs continued to the end of his life. The remainder of this board's memorial relates to the regulating of their coin, and the reducing the proportion of filver to gold to the fame ftandard as in England and Holland: " whereas in France," fay they, " it approaches too near to that of Spain; which " country, being the fource of filver, does not trouble itfelf to ufe any arts to draw our coin " thither; befide that they," *i. e.* Spain, " are always our debtors on account of the trade to " the Weft Indies.

The proportions are,

" I. In England and Holland, $14\frac{13}{16}$, or near fifteen marks of filver buys a mark of gold.

" II. In Spain, $16\frac{1}{4}$ ditto.

" III. In France, $15\frac{45}{189}$; or very near $15\frac{1}{4}$.

Againft raifing the nominal value of their filver coin higher than is contained in its intrinfic quantity of pure bullion, this board's reafonings correfponded exactly with thofe of our great John Locke, Efq; about feven years before. Upon the whole, the faid reprefentations to the Royal Council are fo full of hiftorical matter, not only for the commerce of France, but of England,

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1701 England, Holland, Spain, Portugal, &c. that we could not excuse ourselves from giving a complete, though compendious account of so useful and entertaining a subject.

We shall here only further remark, that had the French afterwards strictly pursued all that is therein so judiciously laid down, they might have been much more considerable in commerce than even they now are: but to this very day they have continued many monopolies and exclusive grants; which the other commercial countries of Europe have no reason to find fault with; and they (*i. e.* their court) have also frequently, and sometimes shamefully, varied and enhanced the nominal value of their coin beyond its intrinsic value, to serve temporary expedients, though to the general prejudice of their people.

On the twelfth of June 1701, was passed the ever-memorable act of the English Parliament, of the twelfth year of King William, cap. ii. For the further Limitation of the Crown, and better securing the Rights and Liberties of the Subject. Whereby the Protestant succession of the illustrious House of Hanover, now on the throne, was most happily established.

On the sixteenth of September, (N. S.) in this same year 1701, the late unhappy King James the Second died at St. Germain in France: and, thereupon, the French King having declared his pretended son to be King of the British Realms, my Lord Manchester, the English ambassador, was instantly recalled from France, and the French one to King William was ordered forthwith to depart the realm. Both sides therefore prepared for war, though not formally declared till after King William's death.

The great Elector of Brandenburg and Duke of Prussia, (Frederick William) for his services and attachment to the common interests of the German empire, and of the grand alliance just formed against France, the common enemy of the liberties of Europe, was, by the interest of his kinsman, King William of England, recognized by most of the princes and states of Europe as King of Prussia, in this year 1701, his large dominions and revenues very well suiting that high dignity he now assumed.

From a formerly well-known periodical monthly Political State of Great Britain, for the month of November 1721, we have the value of all the merchandize imported from, or exported to the following countries of the north, from Michaelmas 1697, after the peace of Ryswich, to Christmas 1701; being yearly, upon an average, as follows, viz.

Imported.	*Imported.*	*Exported.*	*Annual Loss.*
	£.	£.	£.
From Denmark and Norway -	76,215	39,543	36,672
East Country, - -	181,296	149,893	31,403
Russia, - - -	112,252	58,884	53,368
Sweden, - -	212,094	57,555	154,539

Total annual loss to England, on an average, from all the before-named countries 275,982

The reader, by comparing this account with another from the same author, under the year 1716, will see, in some measure, the authenticity of this account confirmed. And the remarks therein made, are recommended to the consideration of those who alone have it in their power to rectify what is in this northern trade so much to our annual loss.

On the seventh of September 1701, the grand alliance of the Emperor Leopold, William King of Great Britain, and the States General of the United Netherlands, was concluded

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1701 against France, for recovering the Spanish monarchy to the house of Austria, and for the security of England and Holland, in point of their commerce and navigation, and of the Hanover succession to the crown of Great Britain, as well as for a safe barrier to the United Netherlands: and thus all things were prepared for war, prior to the death of King William.

1702 King William departed this life on the eighth of March, (N. S.) 1702, to the great concern of the wisest and best of his people. All that properly belongs to our province on this sad occasion, is only to make the following melancholy remark, viz. that it was undoubtedly a fatal mistake in that great and good King's ministers, to suffer a large arrear of national debt to run on to his death, when it somewhat exceeded fourteen millions; which laid the foundation of our present immense debt, as it afforded so bad a precedent for the succeeding reigns. It has been the opinion of many wise and judicious persons, that the war King William was necessarily forced into against France, might have been so frugally managed, as to have prevented such baneful anticipations for long terms. Dr. D'Avenant, in his Essay on Loans, published in the year 1710, has the following pertinent remark to our purpose:

" When, upon the revolution, the Parliament fell most willingly into the war, as a thing " the enemy, by espousing King James's interest, made absolutely necessary; the first branch " of our expence was carried on in the common mode of levying taxes; and the money re- " quired for every year's expence was raised and paid within the year. The nation was rich, " trade prodigiously great, paper credit ran high, and the goldsmiths in Lombard-street, &c " commanded immense sums. Anticipations were indeed in practice; they had been so of " old: and borrowing clauses were added to the bills of aid; but these lasted but a few months, " the money came in of course, and they were paid off in their turn.—Land-taxes, polls, ad- " ditional duties of customs, excises, and the like, were the ways and means by which these " things were to be done. The year generally supported its own demands. All the loans " were supposed to be temporary, and to end with the collection."

Happy had it been for posterity, had its ministers gone on to King William's death, in the manner thus described in the former part of his reign; or had Queen Anne's ministers resolutely determined that King William's debt should on no pretence be increased, the nation could with great ease have borne so moderate a burthen. But the ministers of every succeeding reign going on to accumulate the public burthens, is truly a very sad prospect, and most grievously affects the commerce, manufactures, and navigation of the nation, and also the landed interest. Which melancholy consideration will, we hope, sufficiently justify our present brief animadversion thereon.

On the 4th of May 1702, Queen Anne declared war against the French King, not only on account of his seizing the Spanish monarchy, as before-mentioned, but " for the great affront " and indignity" says the Queen, " offered to us and our kingdoms, in taking upon him to " declare the pretended Prince of Wales, King of our Realms."

The States General's declaration of war sets forth, in substance, " That Louis had long " since cast his eyes on their provinces,—and had twice attacked their republic," *i. e.* in the years 1672 and 1688, " by most unjust war, in order to make his way to universal monarchy. " —That so far was he from designing to observe the treaty of Ryswich, that he thereby " solely aimed at lulling the allies asleep, by their laying down their arms, and particularly by " ruining the commerce of the Dutch, to enervate them: since that treaty was scarcely rati-

 " fied

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1702 "fied, before he began manifestly to encroach on their trade, which is the great finew of their "state, by openly refufing the tarif promifed by that treaty."

In this year, an attempt was made by the Englifh from Carolina againft St. Auguftine, the capital of Spanifh Florida: but, although they took and held the town for a whole month, they were not able to take the caftle for want of mortars, which they ought to have duly confidered before hand; they were therefore forced to withdraw on the arrival of two Spanifh men of war, and to abandon their fhips, ammunition, &c. to the enemy.

In the fame year, the land proprietors of the two provinces of Eaft and Weft New Jerfey, in Englifh America, who had purchafed of the firft proprietors, not readily finding purchafers of under-fhares thereof, and being likewife at variance amongft themfelves, they agreed to furrender into Queen Anne's hands both the charters for thofe two feparate governments: referving their particular rights and properties of the lands and fettlements therein: whereupon the Queen confolidated thofe two provinces into one, and appointed Lord Cornbury to be the firft regal governor. This colony of New Jerfey has fince profpered very well, and has been extremely ufeful in fupplying our fugar colonies with provifions, lumber, &c. Its two beft towns are Burlington and Elizabeth-town; but that of Perth-Amboy is reckoned to have the beft harbour, and to be the moft commodious in point of fituation.

We have feen, under the preceding year, the indifpenfable neceffity there was for uniting the Old and the New Englifh Eaft India Companies, even if it had been for no other reafon but for the fake of public tranquillity. This coalition was made on the twenty-fecond of July 1702, by an indenture tripartite between the Queen and thefe two Companies, in fubftance as follows, viz.

	Stock.
1. The old company being poffeffed, in the late fubfcription, of -	315,000
2. And the new company, of - - - -	1,662,000
3, And the feparate traders, now difcovered to amount to the fum of -	23,000
Making, in all, the fubfcription for - - -	£. 2,000,000

"I. It was now agreed by both companies, that the old company fhall purchafe of the new one, at par, fix hundred and feventy-three thoufand five hundred pounds of their ftock, whereby their whole ftock will be -	988,500
"Leaving the like fum for the new company, viz. - -	988,500
"And the feparate traders, as above, have - - -	23,000
	£. 2,000,000

"II. That the whole trade to India be carried on for the faid two united ftocks, for feven "years, for the benefit of all the members of the new or Englifh Company; the faid old "company to have a right and power equal to all the reft of the members, in the management "of the trade during the faid feven years, but to keep their ftock in their politic or corporate "capacity for the faid term, without transferring it to their particular members.

"III. The old company's dead ftock," (already defined to be forts, factories, buildings, &c. *i. e.* any thing but money, fhips, and merchandize) "being valued at three hundred "and thirty thoufand pounds: and that of the new company but at feventy thoufand pounds:

"the

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1702 " the new one ſhall therefore pay one hundred and thirty thouſand pounds to the old one, for " making up two hundred thouſand pounds for their moiety of the whole dead ſtock being " now four hundred thouſand pounds, intended to be a new additional ſtock on the joint- " bottom.

" IV. But the old company, during the ſaid ſeven years, ſhall have the uſe of their dead " ſtock at home," *i. e.* their offices and warehouſes in Leadenhall-ſtreet, &c. " and then to " go to the united one," (the old company ceaſing to be a company at the end of the ſaid ſeven years) " comprehending the proprietors of both companies.

" V. During the ſaid ſeven years, from the date hereof, each company ſhall hold their diſ- " tinct courts;" (the new company's office being kept at Skinner's Hall on Dowgate Hill)— " Shall have diſtinct courts of directors.—May raiſe money two ways, viz. either for their re- " ſpective moieties of the united trade, or to tranſact their own ſeparate affairs, ſuch as paying " their own ſeparate debts, &c.—but debts contracted for the joint trade ſhall be diſcharged " out of the united company's ſtock.

" VI. and VII. That both companies ſhall forthwith bring home their ſeparate eſtate, di- " viding the ſame amongſt their reſpective members: after which, neither company ſhall ſend " out any ſhips, goods, &c. on their ſeparate account, but all ſhall be on the joint account, " by ſuch orders as ſhall be made by the general courts of both companies, in the name of the " Engliſh Company trading to the Eaſt Indies, by direction of twelve directors out of each " company, ſubordinate to both the general courts.

" VIII. and IX. Both companies ſhall bear an equal proportion of the united trade, and " the members of each may transfer their nominal ſtocks, in the books of their reſpective " company; but ſo as the old company ſhall keep their moiety of ſtock entire in their corpo- " rate capacity for the ſaid ſeven years.

" X. Both companies covenant with her Majeſty, that the joint account ſhall export annu- " ally to India, of the growth, product, or manufacture of England, at leaſt one-tenth part " of the whole ſum they ſhall trade for: an account whereof ſhall be annually delivered to the " Privy Council. Hereby releaſing both companies from all former covenants, ſaltpetre ex- " cepted, of which merchandize they ſhall be obliged to deliver to the office of ordnance, four " hundred and ninety-four tons and a quarter, at forty-five pounds per ton in time of peace, " and at fifty-three pounds, in time of war; the retraction thereof ſettled at fifteen pounds per " cent."—for the ſupply of which commodity, ſo neceſſary for fire-artillery, this company has always juſtly valued themſelves.

" XI. This article relates to the rank of the company's chaplains only.

" XII. The Queen agrees to take the company's ſealed bonds for all the cuſtoms on their " merchandize; the fifteen per cent. on muſlins only excepted.

" XIII. XIV. XV. and XVI. Nothing to be tranſacted on the joint trade, without the " concurrence of both companies:—and only ſervants and free merchants, or other corpora- " tions, the Bank of England excepted, may be licenſed to trade for themſelves in the com- " pany's ſhips, &c.

" XVII. The Queen grants that the general courts of both companies and their ſub-mana- " gers ſhall have the ſole government of their forts.—May coin foreign money in India: and " the old company may convey to the new one, Bombay and St. Helena.

" XVIII. XIX. XX. The old company, at or near the expiration of the ſaid ſeven years, " ſhall transfer into the new company their moiety of the joint-ſtock to their reſpective mem-

 " bers.—

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1702 " bers.—And shall also, some time before the said expiration, assign to her Majesty all the " debts due to them, which debts she engages to re-assign, in ten days after, unto trustees, " for answering the said old company's debts; and afterward for the benefit of their members. " And they also covenant to resign their charter, in two months after the expiration of the " said seven years, into the Queen's hands. Whereupon, the new company shall thenceforward be called, *The united Company of Merchants of England trading to the East Indies:* " whose affairs shall thenceforth be conducted by their own sole directors, agreeable to their " charter of the tenth of King William."—The remaining articles are purely temporary, as indeed some of the foregoing ones also are. " And,

" Lastly, The Queen promises, that this indenture shall be construed in the most favourable " sense for the advantage of both companies."

Thus, a prudent stop was put to much contention, on account of these two East India Companies.

Upon advice received by General Codrington, Governor of the Leeward Islands, that war was declared by England against France, he attacked the French part of the island of St. " Christopher, and possessed himself of it with very little trouble:—ever since which time that fine island has been solely in the possession of Great Britain, having been formally ceded to us by the treaty of Utrecht.

It is possible that the origin of the present great production of the fine rice of South Carolina, might have happened about this time. What the anonymous author of, The Importance of the British Plantations in America, (London, 1701) has said on this subject is well worth recording, though he has not given us the exact year of its origin. It is also, a seasonable lesson for men never to despair of many more new productions in those colonies, and is therefore submitted to The honourable Society for the Encouragement of Arts, Manufactures, and Commerce.

" A brigantine," says that author, " from the isle of Madagascar, happened to put in at " Carolina, having a little seed-rice left, which the Captain gave to a gentleman of the name " of Woodward. From part of this he had a very good crop, but was ignorant for some " years how to clean it. It was soon dispersed over the province, and by frequent experiments " and observations, they found out ways of producing and manufacturing it to such great per- " fection, that it is thought to exceed any other in value. The writer of this hath seen the " said Captain in Carolina, where he received a handsome gratuity from the gentlemen of that " country, in acknowledgement of the service he had done that province. It is likewise re- " ported, that Mr. Dubois, then Treasurer of the East India Company, did send to that " country a small bag of seed-rice some short time after, from whence it is reasonable enough " to suppose might come those two sorts of that commodity, the one called red rice, in con- " tradistinction to the white, from the redness of the inner husk or rind of this sort, although " they both clean and become white alike."

Before this important new production, Carolina was not a little puzzled to supply her mother-country with merchandize sufficient to pay for all the necessaries they constantly wanted from England: that fine grain, we shall see, has since been exported in immense quantities, as have also been the pitch, tar, turpentine, &c. of Carolina, in no inconsiderable quantities and value.

1703 The necessity which all maritime trading nations find, of being supplied with naval stores, and more especially England's very great need thereof, as well for the royal navy, as for her numerous

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1703 numerous mercantile ſhipping, has often put it in the power of the northern crowns to diſtreſs ſuch nations as had none of their own. This eminently appeared in the year 1703, from the Tar Company of Sweden, who abſolutely refuſed to let the Engliſh nation have any pitch or tar, although ready money was always paid for it, unleſs England would permit it all to be brought in Swediſh ſhipping, and at their own price, and likewiſe only in ſuch quantities as that company ſhould pleaſe to permit. This diſappointment, as the late ingenious Mr. Gee likewiſe obſerved, in his Trade and Navigation of Great Britain conſidered, p. 82, "put the Government and Parliament on the method of allowing of bounties for the raiſing of pitch and tar, hemp, flax, and ſhip-timber, in our North American colonies; as particularly in Carolina, the ſouthernmoſt parts of which lying near the latitude of lower Egypt, and the northernmoſt nearly with Ancona and Bologna in Italy; at which parts the beſt hemp and flax grow." The firſt ſtatute of this kind was the act of the third and fourth of Queen Anne, cap. x. For encouraging the Importation of Naval Stores from her Majeſty's Plantations in America: judiciouſly ſetting forth, "that, under God, the wealth, ſtrength, and ſafety of the kingdom, ſo much depend on the royal navy and navigation thereof, and that the ſtores neceſſary for the ſame being hitherto brought in chiefly from foreign parts, and by foreign ſhipping, at exorbitant and arbitrary rates,—which might be provided in a more certain and beneficial manner from her Majeſty's plantations in America, where the vaſt tracts of land lying near the ſea, and on navigable rivers, may commodiouſly afford great quantities of all ſorts of naval ſtores, by due encouragement, which may likewiſe tend to the further employment and increaſe of Engliſh ſhipping and ſeamen, and alſo of the trade and vent of the woollen and other manufactures and product, in exchange for ſuch naval ſtores, now purchaſed of foreign countries for ready money—It was therefore now enacted, that whoever ſhall, in ſhips and with ſailors qualified as by the acts of navigation, import from the Engliſh plantations in America, the under-named naval ſtores, ſhall be entitled to the following bounties, viz.

	£.	s.	d.
"For good and merchantable tar and pitch, per ton of eight barrels -	4	0	0
"———————— rozin or turpentine, per ton - -	3	0	0
"For hemp, water-rotted, bright and clean, per ton of twenty cwt. -	6	0	0
"For all maſts, yards, and bowſprits, per ton, of forty feet each ton -	1	0	0

1. "Proviſo,—That for the particular benefit of the royal navy, the pre-emption or refuſal of the ſaid naval ſtores ſhall be tendered to the commiſſioners of her Majeſty's navy, upon landing the ſame: and if within twenty days the navy board ſhall not bargain for the ſame, then the proprietors may diſpoſe of them to their beſt advantage.

2. "That none within the colonies of New Hampſhire, Maſſachuſet's Bay, Rhode Iſland, and Providence Plantation, the Narraganſet Country, or King's Province, and Connecticut in New England; and in New York, and New Jerſey; ſhall preſume to cut, fell, or deſtroy any pitch pine trees, or tar trees, not being within any incloſure, under the growth of twelve inches diameter, at three feet from the earth, on forfeiture of five pounds for each offence.—Nor,

3. "Shall any one wilfully ſet fire to any woods or foreſt, in which are any trees prepared for the making of pitch or tar, without firſt giving notice to the owners thereof, or to a magiſtrate: under the penalty of ten pounds."

"This ſtatute to be in force for nine years, from the firſt of January 1705, (old ſtile)."

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1703 The good consequence of which seasonable law was soon after felt; as these provinces, and also those of Carolina, do, even at this time, import into England great quantities of merchantable pitch and tar, fit for most uses in the navy. Of late, also, good hemp and flax are raised in the said provinces, where there are such immense quantities of proper and excellent lands for the raising of those commodities; of which two last-mentioned articles, Mr. Gee was of opinion, that Russia, in the year 1729, exported annually to Great Britain, and other nations, to the value of one million sterling.

Upon this occasion, there were computations laid before the government of the following quantities of foreign pitch and tar, annually consumed in Europe, viz.

1. Britain and Ireland, annually about — — —	1000 Lasts.
2. By Holland, as well for their home-use, as for what they export to Spain, Portugal, and up the Mediterranean, — — —	4000
3. By France, — — — — —	500
4. By Hamburg, Lubeck, and other German ports, — —	500
In all,	6000 Lasts.

Of which four-fifth parts consisted of tar, and one fifth of pitch.

Note, That besides Sweden, from whence they chiefly come, there are considerable quantities thereof made in Norway, and also in Russia, brought from Archangel.

By the thirtieth clause of an act of the eighth year of Queen Anne, cap. xiii. the Queen is empowered to apply ten thousand pounds out of the supplies granted in that session of Parliament, "For the subsistence and employment of a number of skilful people, and for furnishing "of fit utensils and materials for effectually carrying on the said good and profitable designs of "raising such naval stores from the growths and products of the said plantations."

By an act of the ninth of Queen Anne, cap. xvii. "One hundred pounds penalty was in-"flicted on any cutting down white, or other pine-trees, not private property, in those plan-"tations, of twenty-four inches diameter, or upwards, twelve inches from the earth. And "the Queen's surveyor-general of her woods in America, shall mark all such trees as shall be "fit for the royal navy with a broad-arrow, for the use of the public."

By an act of the twelfth of Queen Anne,, cap. ix. "the before-mentioned law was renewed, "and the same bounties are allowed for naval stores brought from Scotland:" though to little or no purpose hitherto; although it be true, as the last-named statute remarks; "That there "is in several parts of Scotland great store of pine and fir-trees, fit for masts, and for the ma-"king of pitch, tar, rosin, and other naval stores." But the act itself assigns the true reason why they cannot be easily or cheaply brought to England, viz. "Because the lands and woods "which may yield such naval stores, are mostly in parts mountainous and remote from navi-"gable rivers." This the York-Buildings Company experienced, to their cost, some years after this time; the timber they felled in some of those woods, at a great expence, being left to rot on the ground, the carriage of it to the nearest places of navigation being found impracticable; which will probably ever be the case with respect to Scotland, notwithstanding the bounties allowed by that act, or any larger bounties to be reasonably granted.

The Czar of Russia, Peter the Great, having conquered from Sweden the fine provinces of Livonia, Ingria, and Carelia, formed a grand project in this year 1703, for opening a free and new communication between Russia and the Baltic Sea.—His great genius had discovered, that certain islands at the mouth of the river Neva, at the bottom of the Finland Gulph,

 might

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1703 might be ſo fortified, as to prove to Ruſſia of equal benefit for war or for commerce: hence ſprung up the fort of Cronſlot, now a commodious haven for his ſhips of war, by which all ſhips muſt paſs.

That Prince alſo viewed the adjacent country with ſatisfaction; and, in ſhort, determined to erect a new metropolis and emporium at the mouth of the river Neva, from whence he might more commodiouſly awe his enemies of the north, and alſo open a naval communication, from the Baltic, with the reſt of Europe, by a much ſhorter and ſafer courſe than from Archangel. He conſidered alſo, that by erecting a royal city and port there, though in the ſixtieth degree of north latitude, he ſhould acquire a greater influence, by means of his navy, in the Baltic, and even in the Northern and German oceans. He therefore brought thither a vaſt number of labourers and artificers from all parts of his vaſt empire, with implements, materials, tools, &c. many thouſands of whom are ſaid to have periſhed through cold, hunger, and diſtempers, in that damp place, which gave him little concern: yet, in the end, he ſurmounted all obſtacles.—And having, through his deſpotic ſway, obliged his nobility, merchants, artizans, &c. to erect and inhabit houſes in this new city; and, by encouragements, to get many ſea-faring people, &c. from Livonia, and other parts, to ſettle in it, he gave it the name of St. Peterſburgh, which very ſoon became a large and populous city.

It was objected by the people of Wologda, a city in fifty-nine degrees of north latitude, that ſhould their handicrafts be removed from that city, where three German merchants alone employed upwards of twenty-five thouſand perſons, in dreſſing of hemp and flax, for the Archangel market, their proviſions at Peterſburgh would come much dearer, and ſo they ſhould loſe their trade:—Yet the Czar over-ruled even this point.

Mr. De Dieu, the Dutch reſident with the Czar, in the year 1720, acquaints his principals, that Peterſburgh might then contain about three hundred thouſand ſouls; a thing ſcarcely credible to be effected in theſe modern times, and much more reſembling the power of the ancient oriental monarchs than any modern potentate. Here he eſtabliſhed his admiralty, his mathematical ſchools, his royal academies, founderies, &c. and his docks are at Cronſlot, fifteen or twenty miles lower down; alſo his powder-mills, paper-mills, &c. where alſo there is a good town built, and where he eſtabliſhed rope-walks, anchor-ſmiths, &c. At this new city of St. Peterſburgh were likewiſe eſtabliſhed manufactories of woollen, linen, &c. and every uſeful art for the improvement of the trade and navigation, as well as the general knowledge of his people; obliging them alſo to ſend their children thither for that end.—And, in conſequence of theſe vaſt ſchemes, and of his poſſeſſing the fine port of Revel in Livonia, we have, ſince the building of Peterſburgh, ſeen that moſt unuſual, and abſolutely new ſight, of a Ruſſian fleet triumphant in the Baltic Sea, obliging the fleets of their opponents there, to ſhelter themſelves under the cannon of their fortreſſes.

By the erection of this new city, the port of Archangel, in the White Sea, to which formerly there uſually reſorted yearly above one hundred ſhips, chiefly Engliſh, Dutch, French, Hamburgers, &c. is ſince conſiderably declined in its commerce; its former cuſtoms having by ſome been reckoned to amount to one hundred thouſand pounds ſterling annually. Riga alſo, and Narva, will probably be more and more impaired in their commerce, if Peterſburgh continues to flouriſh, as this laſt-named city is ſo commodiouſly ſituated for the tranſportation of Ruſſian merchandize, by the river Neva, and the great lakes Ladoga and Onega, as well as by land-carriage, into and from the interior parts of the Ruſſian empire, from whence, and from Livonia, &c. that city is well ſupplied with whatever it has need of.

Thus,

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1703 Thus, this modern empire may boast of more than either the Grecian or Roman empire could, viz. of its dominions stretching, south-westward, from the Hyperborean ocean to the Baltic sea; from the Baltic to the Euxine and Caspian seas, southward; and, eastward, even to the confines of the vast empire of China; a very great part of which territories have been acquired within little more than two hundred years past; and some of the best parts of it by the same great Czar Peter; as, particularly, the noble and most fertile province of Livonia, so commodiously situated for commerce, as well in respect of its bays, ports, lakes, and rivers, as for a communication with the Russian inland provinces, and with Lithuania, for its excellent staple commodities of the best hemp in Europe, of pot-ashes, timber of many sorts, iron, steel, flax, corn, cavear, wax, honey, &c. Petersburgh, however, is attended with some great inconveniences, from its watery situation, and the overflowing of the river Neva.

Beside these achievements and improvements of the Czar Peter, he caused a canal to be dug between the river Veronese, or Woronitz, and another small one falling into the great river Volga, whereby a communication was to be opened between the latter and the river Don, the one falling into the Caspian, and the other into the Black Sea: it was performed by Captain John Perry, an Englishman, who likewise, by that great Prince's order, had partly finished a much more considerable work, being a grand canal cut between the Volga and the Don, nearer the mouth of those two huge rivers; but the taking of Azoph from him by the Turks, as elsewhere related, put a stop to that vast design.

The almost unparalleled tempest which happened in November 1703, more especially round the southern coasts of Great Britain, was undoubtedly a great calamity, not only by reason of the destruction of many fine English ships of war, but of a great number of merchant ships, and their valuable cargoes, as well as of the lives of a considerable number of commanders, officers, and sailors; and was, without doubt, some obstruction to the increase of the nation's wealth. Nevertheless, it appears by Dr. D'Avenant's report to the commissioners of accounts, in the year 1712, part i. p. 43, who was then inspector-general of the customs, that England's exports in this same year, to all parts of the world, amounted to six millions six hundred and forty-four thousand two hundred and three pounds; of which sum there was exported to Holland alone, two millions four hundred and seventeen thousand eight hundred and ninety pounds, being above one-third of our whole exports. We have, in our Introduction, accounted for the vastness of our exports to Holland; and, upon the whole, the number of great ships we and the Dutch took this same year at Vigo, and the treasure we brought home from thence, beside what was destroyed, might nearly counterbalance the loss England sustained by the said storm.

In this same famous year, John Methuen, Esq. concluded, on the part of the Queen of Great Britain, a famous, though concise treaty of commerce with Peter, King of Portugal, much to the benefit of both nations, viz.

Article I. "The King of Portugal, on his part, stipulates, both in his own name, and "those of his successors, to admit for ever hereafter into Portugal, the woollen cloths, and "the rest of the woollen manufactures of the Britains," (these are the very words of this treaty, as printed in the fourth volume of Treaties of Peace and Commerce, in the year 1732) "as "was accustomed till they were prohibited by the laws; nevertheless, upon this condition:

"II. That her Royal Majesty of Great Britain shall, in her own name and that of her "successors, be obliged for ever hereafter to admit the wines of the growth of Portugal into "Britain: so that at no time, whether there shall be peace or war between the kingdoms of

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1703 " Great Britain and France, any thing more ſhall be demanded for theſe wines, by the name " of cuſtom or duty, or by whatſoever other title, directly or indirectly, whether they ſhall " be imported into Great Britain in pipes, or hogſheads, or other caſks, than what ſhall be " demanded for the like quantity or meaſure of French wines, deducting or abating one-third " part of the cuſtom or duty. But if at any time this deduction or abatement of cuſtoms, " which is to be made as aforeſaid, ſhall in any manner be attempted and prejudiced, it ſhall " be juſt and lawful for his ſacred Majeſty of Portugal again to prohibit the woollen cloths " and the reſt of the Britiſh woollen manufactures." Dated at Liſbon, December 27, 1703.

This moſt juſt and beneficial convention has remained inviolable to this day; which has preſerved an uninterrupted friendſhip and alliance between both nations. And may it ever continue.

By this treaty (ſays Mr. King, the editor of the Britiſh Merchant, in his dedication to Sir Paul Methuen, the ſon of the miniſter who negociated it) " we gain a greater balance from " Portugal than from any other country whatever. By it alſo we have increaſed our exports " thither, from about three hundred thouſand pounds yearly, to near one million five hun- " dred thouſand pounds "

After England's declaration of war, in the year 1702, againſt Spain, then poſſeſſed by the grandſon of France, as well as againſt France, it was by no means Great Britain's intereſt to uſe the wines of thoſe two countries, which could have been imported by neutral ſhips: and as Portugal's red wines were therefore become in ſome ſort the only kind we could then conveniently and reaſonably obtain, this treaty was and is ſtill beneficial to both countries, though perhaps ſomewhat exaggerated by the above-named author, eſpecially as Portugal has, in return for our taking ſuch vaſt quantities of their wines, conſtantly taken off a greater quantity of our manufactures, ſo as to occaſion a conſiderable yearly balance in our favour. And our palates being long ſince ſo well reconciled to Portugal wine, the Portugueſe, for our ſupply, have turned great quantities of their lands into vineyards.

		l.	s.	d.
Bullion exported from England to the Eaſt Indies in ſix years, viz. from 1698 to 1703, both years included — —	in ſilver	3,171,404	17	8
	gold	128,229	0	0
	Total of both	3,299,633	17	8
Which total, on an average, makes, per annum, — —		549,938	19	7½

1704 By a law, made about the beginning of this year, for the public regiſtering of all deeds, conveyances, and wills, in any honours, manors, lands, tenements, or hereditaments, within the Weſt Riding in the county of York, of this ſecond and third of Queen Anne, cap. iv. " a memorial of all deeds and conveyances, and of all wills and deviſes in writing, whereby " any honours, manors, &c. in the ſaid Weſt-Riding, may be any way affected in law or " equity, may, at the election of the party or parties concerned, be regiſtered, as is herein- " after-directed. And that, after ſuch regiſter, every ſubſequent deed or conveyance of the " ſaid honours, manors, &c. ſo regiſtered, or any part thereof, ſhall be adjudged fraudulent " and void, unleſs a memorial thereof ſhall alſo be regiſtered: and the like of wills, &c.— " The regiſter's office to be kept at Wakefield. This act not to extend to copyhold eſtates, " nor to leaſes at rack-rent, nor to any leaſe not exceeding twenty-one years."

The

A. D. 1704 The very good grounds or reaſons aſſigned for this law, in its preamble, were, "that this "Weſt-Riding is the principal place in the north for the cloth manufacture; and that moſt "of the traders therein are freeholders, and have frequent occaſions to borrow money upon "their eſtates, for managing their ſaid trade; but, for want of a regiſter, find it difficult to "give ſecurity to the ſatisfaction of the money lenders, although the ſecurity they offer be "really good; by means whereof, the ſaid trade is very much obſtructed, and many families "ruined."

What pity it is, that ſuch a regiſter could not be rendered practicable all over England; ſince by ſuch a prudent regulation, many frauds might effectually be prevented; and this too, without expoſing gentlemens circumſtances further than the nature of ſuch regiſters abſolutely require.

N. B. By an act of the fifth of Queen Anne, in the year 1707, cap. xviii. for enrollment of bargains and ſales in the ſaid Weſt Riding, ſeveral additional proviſions were made for enrolling all bargains, ſales, &c. which are not neceſſary to be particularized in this place.

The former part of the year 1704 ſeemed at firſt to portend much hazard to the liberties and commerce of the greateſt part of Chriſtendom: France was in actual poſſeſſion of the whole Spaniſh monarchy; the German empire powerfully invaded on the ſide of Bavaria by the French; where, as well as in Italy, their ſuperiority gave them great advantages, as did alſo an inſurrection in Hungary. All theſe appearances were very melancholy conſiderations in England, and very naturally occaſioned a great fall in the nominal values or prices of their parliamentary funds and public ſtocks. The Bank of England therefore found themſelves obliged again to iſſue, for a large ſum, their ſealed bills, bearing intereſt, in order to keep up their credit; and the Eaſt India Company was obliged to create a conſiderable ſum in their bonds, for enabling them to fit out their ſhips. Yet, ſuch is the fluctuating ſtate of things in time of war, two very great pieces of good fortune happened to the grand allies before this year ended, viz.

I. The famous and moſt compleat victory of the confederate army, on the thirteenth of Auguſt, at Blenheim or Hockſtadt, over the French and Bavarian army; on which it may be truly ſaid, the fate and liberty of Europe, as well as in a more particular manner that of Germany, in a great meaſure depended: and,

II. The taking of the moſt important fortreſs and port of Gibraltar. Both which gave a moſt wonderful turn to public affairs all over Europe; and particularly to the hopes and public credit of England.

Gibraltar having been confirmed to Great Britain by the peace of Utrecht, has proved of very ſignal advantage to us;—as it is not only a bridle on moſt of the Chriſtian States we may be at war with;—a ſure ſtation for our ſhips of war;—a ſafe retreat in war for our merchant ſhips;—a refreſhing place for both;—and a curb on the piratical ſtates of the oppoſite Barbary ſhores:—In every view, therefore, highly meriting all the expence we can beſtow for preſerving it in our poſſeſſion. It was alſo thought ſo dangerous a thorn in the ſide of Spain, that the French and Spaniards formally beſieged it in October this ſame year; but it was twice ſeaſonably relieved: and the ſame happened again in the year 1727; ſince which its fortifications have been much improved.

The Engliſh ſtatute of the fifteenth of King Charles the Second, for the encouragement of trade, ſtiled by way of eminence the Act of Navigation, having enacted, that no merchandize of any part of Europe ſhall be imported into any part of Aſia, Africa, or America, belonging to

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1704 to his Majesty, but what shall be laden from England, except as is therein excepted; an act of this year, (third and fourth of Queen Anne, cap. viii.) so far repeals the same, as to permit the exportation of Irish linen cloth to the English plantations. Its preamble sets forth, that, "for as much as the Protestant interest in Ireland ought to be supported, by giving the "utmost encouragement to the linen manufactures of that kingdom. Irish linen therefore "might thenceforward be exported from any port of Ireland directly to any of the English "plantations, in English-built shipping, navigated according to law."

The linen manufacture of Ireland was then, and in a great measure still is, principally carried on in the province of Ulster and parts adjacent, where the Protestants are by far the majority of the people; but in most other parts of that kingdom it is well known to be otherwise.

By a statute of this same third and fourth of Queen Anne, cap. ix. "promissory notes were," for the encouragement of trade and commerce, "enacted to be assignable by indorsement; "and actions might be maintained thereon, in like sort as was enacted on inland bills of exchange, in the year 1698, ninth of King William. And whereas in the said act of the "ninth of King William, there is no provision made for protesting of inland bills of exchange, in case the party on whom any such inland bill shall be drawn shall refuse to accept "the same;—it was now hereby enacted, that if hereafter, upon presenting of any such bill, "the party on whom it shall be drawn shall refuse to accept the same by under-writing it "under his hand, he or she to whom the said bill is made payable, or his servant, agent, or "assigns, may and shall cause the said bill to be protested for non-acceptance," as was by the said law of 1698, to be done, when due, for non-payment, "and as is the case of foreign "bills of exchange. Yet no such protest shall be necessary for non-payment of such inland "bill of exchange, unless drawn for twenty pounds, or upwards; and also that the protest "for non-acceptance shall be made by such persons as are appointed by the said act of 1698," *i. e.* a notary-public, or &c. as already therein recited, "to protest inland bills for non-"payment. Also, that if any person doth accept," *i. e.* receive and take, "any such bill of "exchange, for and in satisfaction of any former debt, the same shall be accounted and "esteemed a full and complete payment of such debt, although the said receiver of it doth "not take his due course to obtain payment thereof, by endeavouring to get the same accepted "and paid, or else by protesting, as aforesaid, either for non-acceptance or non-payment "thereof. Lastly, nothing in this act shall discharge any remedy which any person may "have against the drawer, accepter, or indorser of such bill."

It is somewhat strange, that two such salutary and important regulations as this law has made in promissory notes and inland bills of exchange, were not sooner enacted in a country of such considerable mercantile transactions as England has long carried on. But to say the truth, what many have remarked of our national slowness in reforming abuses and defects, seems but too well grounded.

This law was made perpetual by the seventh of Queen Anne, cap. xxv.

In this year 1704 Queen Anne granted a charter of incorporation to a great number of noblemen and gentlemen of distinction, and eminent citizens of London.

The preamble of this charter declares it to be at the humble request of Thomas Duke of Leeds, Pawlet Earl of Bolingbroke, Francis Lord Guildford, Sir Thomas and Sir Humphry Mackworths, "for the working and managing of mines and minerals, and smelting, refining "and manufacturing the same; and they to be for ever one body-politic, by the name of "The Governor and Company of the Mine Adventurers of England. The Duke of Leeds "to

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1704 "to be governor for life: and to elect a deputy governor and twelve directors by their general "courts; who are alſo impowered to make bye-laws, &c." as cuſtomary in other royal charters. Hereupon, in the ſame year, Sir Humphry Mackworth and William Waller, who had before purchaſed ſeveral leaſes, for terms of years, of certain mines in different parts of Wales, did now convey them to this new corporation, on certain conditions mentioned in that conveyance. This company (principally, if not ſolely, under Sir Humphry Mackworth's direction, who was elected deputy governor for life, went on in a pompous manner, adding ſo many new ſhares as made the whole number of ſhares to amount to ſix thouſand and twelve: and purchaſing freſh mines, as well as raiſing vaſt quantities of lead and copper, and of litharge, from which they made a great deal of red lead; and from the lead they extracted conſiderable quantities of ſilver: and they iſſued caſh notes which they cauſed for ſome time to be circulated throughout a great part of Wales. They alſo erected themſelves into a money bank, and circulated their ſealed bills and caſh notes for ſome time in London, till reſtrained by a clauſe in an act of Parliament, in the year 1708, in favour of the Bank of England, elſewhere mentioned.

Sir Humphry Mackworth went on impoſing on the proprietors for five years from the date of the charter; by falſe and ſham calculations of their profits; by purchaſing lead and litharge from other people's mines, and declaring them to be digged from the company's mines; buying alſo the ſilver extracted from other men's lead, and getting it to be coined in the King's mint as coming from the company's mines; whilſt, at the ſame time, he is not able to go on without freſh artifices and calls on the proprietors, nor to pay the vaſt expence of workmen, &c. whoſe wages were ſuffered to run in arrear; and his ſchemes being too extenſive for this company's abilities, he was obliged to ſtop payment of their ſealed bills and caſh notes; being by ſuch wild management run greatly in debt, whilſt at the ſame time he is erecting of charity ſchools in Wales with the company's money, for the drawing in of well meaning people. All which brought on a parliamentary enquiry, as will be ſeen under the year 1710.

1705 The French burn and deſtroy many of the plantations in the iſle of St. Chriſtopher, at this time ſolely poſſeſſed by England, as alſo in the neighbouring iſle of Nevis: yet they were not able to poſſeſs themſelves of the forts of either of thoſe iſlands. And the damage done to the planters was afterwards made good by debentures granted by Parliament.

The Engliſh arms proving proſperous both by ſea and land againſt France, the ſupplies were raiſed with the greateſt eaſe for the current ſervices of this and ſeveral ſucceeding years: particularly the annuities of ninety-nine years, at ſix and a half per cent. the capital or principal (of two millions and an half, for the enſuing year's ſupply) to be ſunk at the expiration of that term. This way of raiſing of money, we are ſenſible, has ſince been cenſured by many, although during the laſt and preſent expenſive wars again practiſed: yet contemporary writers were not of that opinion; and they alſo unanimouſly obſerve very truly, that the national or public credit of England was never before at ſo high a pitch; nor more ſacredly maintained. Nothing indeed ſeemed amiſs either with regard to our foreign commerce or colonies; both which were in a proſperous and increaſing ſtate, as well as our home manufactures.

1706 By an act of Parliament of the fourth year of Queen Anne, cap. xvii. it was enacted,—that, from Midſummer 1706, bankrupts who ſhall not, within thirty days after public notice, ſurrender themſelves, and diſcover their effects, ſhall ſuffer as felons; unleſs the Lord Chancellor ſhall enlarge the time.—Five per cent. allowed to the bankrupt, unleſs his eſtate ſhall not produce eight ſhillings per pound to his creditors.—Bankrupts who ſhall have within one year

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1706 preceding their bankruptcy, loſt five pounds at once, at any kind of game, or one hundred pounds in all, ſhall receive no benefit by this act.—Not diſcovering all their eſtates, ſhall ſuffer as felons without the benefit of clergy.

The moſt important tranſaction that had ever happened in Great Britain was finally and legally compleated at the cloſe of the year 1706, viz. a conſolidating union of the two Britannic kingdoms of England and Scotland, after their crowns had been united one hundred and four years before, in the perſon of King James the Firſt.

This great and happy union had been ſeveral times before attempted in different reigns, but had been as often obſtructed by various objections ſtarted, and not ſeriouſly and ſteadily endeavoured to be removed. Nothing certainly could be more obvious, than that it was the true intereſt of two nations ſolely inhabiting and poſſeſſing the ſame iſland, perfectly to unite for their common defence againſt all attacks from the continent: for, by ſuch a cloſe union of hearts as well as conſtitution, ſo ſituated, and ſo warlike; and alſo a people ſo numerous as to amount to about nine millions of ſouls, could in fact be always able to defend themſelves againſt any ſuch foreign attacks: but, remaining disjointed, they had different and often contrary intereſts to purſue, not only in matters of trade and commerce, product and manufactures, but even in friendſhip and affection with regard to different nations on the continent. Religion too, or rather indeed the mere external mode of it, contributed its ſhare in keeping up the difference; and, what had perhaps the greateſt influence of all, ancient ill-judged national prejudices on both ſides ſtill remained too ſtrong to be eaſily conquered.—Finally, the great hereditary officers of the weaker kingdom, and the poſſeſſors of many other lucrative ſtate offices there, which muſt neceſſarily be ſunk upon ſuch an incorporating union with England, had alſo no ſmall influence in obſtructing it. But an able miniſtry in both nations, more eſpecially in England, joined to a more moderate way of thinking, of many wiſe men in both Parliaments, amongſt the commiſſioners for this ſolemn treaty, at length got the better of all obſtructions: and, as preparatory laws were made in both kingdoms, and the Parliament of Scotland having firſt agreed to the articles of this ever-famous union, they were laſtly ratified by a moſt ſolemn act of the Engliſh Parliament, cap. viii. intitled, An Act for an Union of the two Kingdoms of England and Scotland. The articles are twenty-five in number: but, as it is foreign to our ſubject, and alſo ſuperfluous, to recite what is to be found in all our hiſtories at large, it will be ſufficient for our particular purpoſe briefly to note, that,

By the fourth article it was enacted, that "all the ſubjects of the united kingdom of Great "Britain ſhould, from and after the union, have full freedom and intercourſe of trade and "navigation to and from any port or place within the ſaid united kingdom, and the domi-"nions and plantations thereunto belonging: and that there ſhould be a communication of "all other rights, privileges, and advantages which do or may belong to the ſubject of either "kingdom; except where it is otherwiſe expreſsly agreed in theſe articles."

By the fifteenth article it was ſtipulated, "that whereas by the terms of this treaty, the "ſubjects of Scotland, for preſerving an equality of trade throughout the united kingdom, "will be liable to ſeveral cuſtoms and exciſes now payable in England, which will be appli-"cable towards payment of the debts of England contracted before the union, it is agreed, "that Scotland ſhall have an equivalent for what the ſubjects thereof ſhall be ſo charged to-"wards payment of the ſaid debts of England." Which equivalent is herein ſtipulated to be three hundred and ninety-eight thouſand and eighty-five pounds ten ſhillings ſterling, to be

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1706 granted by the Parliament of England, as in this article is particularly and at large explained. The destination of which equivalent being in the same article applied,

First, For indemnifying private persons for any losses they may sustain by reducing the coin of Scotland to the standard and value of the coin of England.

Secondly, For indemnifying the sufferers in the late African and Indian Company of Scotland.

Thirdly, For discharging the public debts of Scotland.—To say the truth, the Scots in general were so inflamed by England's destruction of their Darien or African Company, that nothing but the absolute assurance of an equivalent for re-imbursing their whole capital, with interest, being two hundred and thirty-two thousand one hundred and sixty-two pounds sixteen shillings and eleven pence five-sixths, could have prepared their minds for this union.

Fourthly, For improving the manufacture of the coarse wool of Scotland. And,

Fifthly, For encouraging and promoting the fisheries, and such other manufactures and improvements in Scotland as may most conduce to the general good of the united kingdom. For which ends commissioners were to be appointed, &c.—For which end also, the laws of England, relating to coin, and weights and measures, as well as concerning the regulation of trade, customs, and excises, were by the three succeeding articles to take place in Scotland.—This is the substance of all the articles that immeditely relate to our subject.

But before we treat of the actual commencement of this union, which was not till the succeeding year, we must, in order of time, remark, that, by an act of the English Parliament in the said fifth year of Queen Anne, cap. xiii. For continuing the Duties upon Houses, to secure a yearly fund for circulating Exchequer bills, whereby a sum not exceeding one million five hundred thousand pounds, is intended to be raised, &c. the Bank of England's fund and privileges, which had been limited to one year's notice after the first of August 1705, were further prolonged, upon their now undertaking to circulate the said one million five hundred thousand pounds in Exchequer bills, at four pounds ten shillings per cent. per annum. By this act, therefore, the bank was impowered to call in money from their members, for enabling them to circulate the said Exchequer bills, in proportion to their respective stocks in that company. By which power there arose another temporary addition to their old capital, which had before been reduced to its original sum of one million two hundred thousand pounds, by the government's having gradually paid off the principal and interest of five million one hundred and sixty thousand four hundred and fifty-nine pounds fourteen shillings and nine pence farthing, which had been subscribed into the bank in tallies, orders, &c. as has been fully related under the year 1697. This temporary addition to bank stock was one million one thousand one hundred and seventy-one pounds ten shillings; which, with the said one million two hundred thousand pounds original capital, made the whole now amount to two million two hundred and one thousand one hundred and seventy-one pounds ten shillings. And by this act the bank was to remain a corporation, until the redemption of all the said one million five hundred thousand pounds in Exchequer bills.

This was the first time that the Bank of England undertook the circulation of Exchequer bills, by which measure they rendered themselves the favourites of the government; and they have ever since remained so, having from time to time bargained with the public for that purpose annually, on easy or moderate terms. In this same year, the bank again issued sealed bills, for the better enabling them to perform their said contracts, at an interest of two pence per cent. per diem, or three per cent. per annum.

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1707 The most important, wise, and happy incorporating Union of the Kingdoms of England and Scotland took place on the first day of May 1707. And although the two rebellions since that period were both originally propagated from Scotland, through the violence of party zeal, and of clanships and superiorities, since wisely abolished; yet a peaceable, loyal, and industrious spirit having since universally prevailed, the great benefits accruing to both nations by this union appear more and more conspicuous. From Scotland, not only the navy-royal but our land armies have been supplied with many thousands of stout and well-affected men; as has been very effectually experienced.—By an union with Scotland she has the more absolute use of many good ports,—of a more extensive fishery,—of a supply of very good though small cattle, and of various other benefits.

Scotland, on the other hand, receives inestimable advantages by her incorporating union with England.

First, By gradually and very visibly enriching herself from a participation of commerce with England's foreign plantations, factories, &c.

Secondly, By her union with England, she gradually learns the melioration of her soil, which in many parts is now known to be much more capable of improvement than was formerly imagined.

Thirdly, By this union, Scotland's coarse woollen stuffs and stockings, and her more valuable linen manufactures, now of many various, beautiful, and ingenious kinds, have a prodigious vent, not only in England but for the American plantations; as well as the consumption of so many of her black cattle in England, and of her peltry, &c. And great pity it truly may be said to be, that two nations, sprung from the same original stock, speaking the same language, essentially professing the same religion, and whom nature seems to have designed for one, by being separated by the great ocean from the rest of mankind, should not have sooner pursued their true and evident mutual interests, and thereby have much sooner increased in wealth, security, and power. If, upon the death of King Alexander the Third, and of his grand child stiled, The Maid of Norway, Scotland had voluntarily united itself to England, near five hundred years ago, how much more populous, powerful, and rich, would both parts of the island have probably been at this time, as they would have naturally avoided much of the cruel bloodshed and devastations, occasioned by their many intestine wars since that period.

Considering the inferior number of people, and the greater poverty of Scotland, compared with England, it may not in this place be improper to remark the quantity of gold and silver coin of all sorts, which, in consequence of this union, was brought into the mint at Edinburgh, to be recoined into the pieces and denomination of sterling money, and of coin not then brought in; we have it from the late accurate Mr. Thomas Ruddiman, in p. 84, of his most curious and learned Preface to Anderson's Thesaurus Diplomatum et Numismatum Scotiæ; being no less than four hundred and eleven thousand one hundred and seventeen pounds ten shillings and nine pence, actually then brought to that mint: besides, perhaps, as much more hoarded up by the whimsical, disaffected, and timorous, who were strongly prepossessed against the union, and were far from believing it could last any length of time: beside, also, what was then exported, and what was retained by silversmiths for plate, &c. So that our said author, upon the whole, is, for various reasons, of opinion, (p. 85) that there was, in this year 1707, in gold and silver coin, about nine hundred thousand pounds sterling in Scotland.

Dr.

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1707 Dr. Fleetwood, afterwards Bishop of Ely, now published his Chronicon Preciosum, to which we have before acknowledged ourselves indebted for the rates or prices of provisions in many different periods of time for some centuries past. Towards the latter part of that work, he gives us the true market price of wheat and malt for sixty years, *i. e.* from 1646 to 1705, both inclusive. The highest price of wheat was four pounds five shillings per quarter, in the year 1648; and of malt, in the year 1659, two pounds eight shillings and eight pence: and the lowest price of wheat in all that period was, one pound five shillings and two pence, in the year 1687; and of malt, in 1681, seventeen shillings and four pence. Those of the year 1705, were one pound ten shillings for wheat, and one pound six shillings for malt.—Medium for wheat between those two prices, is two pounds fifteen shillings and one penny. Medium for malt between those two prices, is one pound thirteen shillings.

The good Bishop observes,

First, That in every year there are two prices of corn, viz. that at Lady-day, and that at Christmas; both which he put together, and took half of the sum, for the common price of that whole year.

Secondly, Of the first twenty years of the said sixty years, the price of wheat was two pounds seventeen shillings and five pence halfpenny; and of malt one pound twelve shillings and three farthings per quarter.

Thirdly, For the second twenty years, from 1666 to 1685, wheat two pounds six shillings and three pence three farthings; and malt one pound five shillings and three pence three farthings.

Fourthly, In the last twenty years, viz. from 1686 to 1705, wheat two pounds five shillings and nine pence three farthings, and malt one pound five shillings and five pence farthing.

Fifthly, One year with another for the said sixty years, wheat was two pounds nine shillings and ten pence halfpenny; and malt one pound seven shillings and seven pence farthing. A similar fluctuation in the rates of corn is ever to be expected, and has accordingly happened, down to our own times.

The English act of Parliament of the thirteenth and fourteenth of King Charles the Second, prohibiting the importation of foreign bone-lace, cut-work, embroidery-fringes, band-strings, buttons, and needle-work, being found to obstruct the vent of English woollen manufactures in the Spanish Netherlands, that act was now repealed, as far as relates to the said Netherlands, by an act of the fifth of Queen Anne, cap. xvii.

By an act of the said fifth of Queen Anne, cap. xxii. To explain and amend an act of the last Session of Parliament, cap. xvi. for preventing Frauds frequently committed by Bankrupts, it was enacted,

" That bankrupts who shall, after the twenty-fifth of April 1707, remove, carry away, or " embezzle any part of their effects, shall suffer as felons. A bankrupt shall not be discharged " —unless his certificate be first signed by four-fifths in number and value of his creditors. " Commissioners of bankrupts may appoint assignees; who may, by a majority of the creditors, " be afterward removed.—No commission of bankruptcy shall be issued by the application of " any creditor, unless his single debt shall amount to one hundred pounds,—or of two credi- " tors, so petitioning, one hundred and fifty pounds,—or of three or more creditors, to two " hundred pounds. This act to continue for two years, and from thence to the end of next " session of Parliament, and no longer."

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1707 By an act of Parliament toward the close of this year, being the fourth of this Queen, cap. ii. For better securing the Duty on East India Goods, "The security thereafter "to be given, pursuant to the act of the ninth of King William, cap. xliv. was, that the "East India Company should cause all the merchandize laden in any ship bound from East "India to be brought to some port of England," (now to Great Britain) "without previously breaking bulk, there to be unladen; and that it shall be after the rate of two thousand "five hundred pounds, for every hundred ton of each ship sent to the Indies, necessary provisions, stores, and merchandizes for the people and garrison of St. Helena, for their own "proper consumption only, excepted; and except also, where the breaking of bulk, or landing of goods, shall happen by the danger of the seas, enemies, restraints of princes, &c.— "under penalty of forfeiting such goods or their value," &c.

A prudent law was at this time made for the advancement of our woollen manufacture, by a statute of the sixth of Queen Anne, cap. viii. For encouraging the Dressing and Dying of Woollen Cloths within the Kingdom of Great Britain, before Exportation, a duty of five shillings was laid on every white woollen cloth exported.—And it was also thereby enacted, that such white cloths, commonly called broad cloth, shipped before the said duty be paid, shall be forfeited.

1708 The old law of the first year of King James the First, For the well-garbling of spices and drugs in London, which we did not judge worth while then to recite, being in length of time found to be not only useless, for the most part, but often prejudicial, was now repealed: and an equivalent given to the city of London for the profits formerly made by the garbler's office, by laying a tax of forty shillings yearly, to be paid to the Chamberlain of London, by all brokers; who, acting as such, without regular admittance, were now to forfeit twenty-five pounds. Neverthelefs, the Lord Mayor, Aldermen, and Common Council, may, if they so judge fit, appoint a person to be a garbler; who, at the request of the owner of any spices, drugs, &c. garbleable, and not otherwise, shall garble the same, for such fee as the Lord Mayor, &c. shall appoint.

In this same year, the British revenue being under the management of so able and upright a Lord Treasurer as the Earl of Godolphin, the credit of the public was on so good a footing, that it was judged adviseable to avail the nation thereof, by reducing the rate of interest on the debt of two millions due to the East India Company. This was done in the said sixth year of Queen Anne, by a statute, cap. xvii. For assuring to the English Company trading to the East Indies, on Account of the United Stock, a longer time in the Fund and Trade.—And for raising thereby one million two hundred thousand pounds, for her Majesty's occasions.

Hereby the English Company, (which, by uniting the whole trade in the year 1702, as has been related, consisted of themselves and of the old company still subsisting, and likewise of seven thousand two hundred pounds subscribed in the year 1698, by separate traders, as part of the said capital of two millions) now advanced one million two hundred thousand pounds without any additional interest. So as the whole capital now consisting of three millions two hundred thousand pounds should thenceforth receive of the public but five per cent. interest, or one hundred and sixty thousand pounds per annum: "on condition, that the term of their "exclusive trade to India should be prolonged for fourteen years and an half longer. That "is to say, whereas, by the law of 1698, they were to be redeemable, upon three years "notice after 1711, and repayment of principal and interest; their redemption was now prolonged

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1708 "longed to three years notice after Lady-day 1726. And for enabling the English Company "to make good this loan to the public, they were by this act impowered to borrow as far as "one million five hundred thousand pounds on bonds, over and above what they were legally "impowered to do before, and also to make calls of money from their proprietors. The "proprietors of the seven thousand two hundred pounds in separate trade, may still continue "so to trade till Michaelmas 1711, when the united company may, on three years notice "pay the same off,—whereby their privileges of trading shall be solely vested in the company. "By this act, that part of the act of the twelfth of King William, which laid a duty of five "per cent. on exported goods to India, was to cease from Michaelmas 1714. And, in order "for a speedy and complete union to be perfected between the old and new companies, in "pursuance of the indenture-tripartite, in the year 1702, the final determination of all mat-"ters in difference between the said companies, and the compleating of their union was here-"by referred to the Earl of Godolphin, Lord High Treasurer of Great Britain, as his lord-"ship shall think fit, by an award, in writing, under his hand and seal: the whole to be com-"pleated, and the old company's charter to be surrendered, by Michaelmas 1708. After "which, the united company's stile and title to be," as it still is, "The united Company "of Merchants of England trading to the East Indies."

It is almost needless to remark, that much clamour was raised against this renewal of the exclusive privileges of trading to India, as it was naturally to be expected, and had always before happened on every such renewal. Many pamphlets were published for inducing the legislature to lay that trade open, or, at least, to let Bristol, Liverpool, Hull, and other great trading towns into a proportionable share of the trade. It was plausibly said, that it was hard London alone should engross all this vast commerce, whereas the Dutch East India Company comprehended six of their towns therein, in the year 1602, when that company was first settled on its present establishment. But the (at least equally plausible) answer was, that, as it is a transferable stock, every person in the three kingdoms might freely purchase shares therein. It is also unnecessary further to remark, that a similar clamour was afterwards renewed, as often as the legislature was applied to for a further prolongation of their said exclusive privileges, and this, probably, will continue to be the case in any future application for the same purpose.

To complete all that is needful to be known concerning this union of these two East India Companies, we shall here further observe, that the following regulations were in consequence thereof made, viz.

First, For every hundred pound old stock there was given one hundred pounds eight shillings and ten-pence stock in the united company.

Secondly, Twenty-five one half per cent. was made a call on the proprietors of the old company, for enabling them to be joined to the united one.

Thirdly, The remaining debts owing to, and effects of, the old company, were vested in trustees for the benefit of the proprietors of the old company, who were such at the time of uniting with the new one.

By a statute of this sixth year of Queen Anne, cap. xxii. for continuing several duties therein mentioned, upon coffee, &c.—And for securing the credit of the Bank of England, &c.—It was, amongst many other points enacted, "that during the continuance of the Governor and Company of the Bank of England, it shall not be lawful for any body-politic, "erected or to be erected, other than the said Governor and Company of the Bank of Eng-"land;

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1708 " land; or, for other persons whatsoever, united or to be united in covenants or partnership, " exceeding the number of six persons, in that part of Great Britain called England," (this law could not meddle with the Bank of Scotland, as it was legally established in the year 1695, " to borrow, owe, or take up any sum or sums of money on their bills or notes, payable at " demand, or at any less time than six months from the borrowing thereof." The reason herein assigned for this enacting clause, was, " that some corporations, notwithstanding the " law of the eighth year of King William, cap. xix. by colour of their charters; and other " great number of persons, by pretence of deeds or covenants united together, had presumed " to borrow great sums of money; and therewith to deal as a bank, to the apparent danger " of the established credit of the kingdom."

This clause was principally aimed at the Mine-adventure Company, who, contrary to law, had set up banking, and issued cash notes, &c. as we have already related.

In this same year, (a year, in several respects, prosperous to England and her allies) the island of Minorca, with its commodious haven of Port Mahon, and its strong fort of St. Philip, belonging to Spain, was subdued by the British forces, commanded by Major General Stanhope. By possessing whereof, Mr. Burchett, in his Naval History, observes, " that we " have the advantage of a goodly harbour, which during the war was exceeding useful to us, " (as it may hereafter be on the like occasion) in the cleansing and refitting such of our ships " as were employed in the Mediterranean: and not only magazines of stores were lodged there " for that purpose, but such officers were appointed to reside on the place as were judged re- " quisite." The shameful loss of this island, in the year 1756, can never be thought on by Britons without indignation.

The French King intending this year an invasion of Scotland, for supporting the Pretender's claim; there ensued a great demand, or run (as it is usually termed) on the Bank of England: and the credit thereof being so nearly connected with that of the Exchequer,—the Lord Treasurer Godolphin, for the applying of an effectual remedy thereto, signified to the Directors of the Bank, that the Queen would, for six months, allow an interest of six per cent. on their sealed bills, which till then bore only three per cent. Moreover, his lordship, and the Dukes of Marlborough, Newcastle, and Somerset, and many other lords offered to advance to the Bank considerable sums of money: by which encouragement, and their making a call of twenty per cent. on their capital, the Bank was enabled to weather that storm, and to preserve their credit.

In the same year, a similar statute for the register of deeds, conveyances, wills, devices, mortgages, &c. in the East Riding of Yorkshire, was made in the sixth year of Queen Anne, cap. xxv. as had been made for the West Riding of the same county four years before: and for much the same reasons as were assigned for that; only the necessity of such a register is, in the present act, put somewhat stronger. It is herein said, " that the lands in the said East " Riding, and in the town and county of the town of Kingston upon Hull, being generally " freehold, they may be so secretly transferred or conveyed from one person to another, that " such as are ill disposed have it in their power to commit frauds, and frequently do so, by " means whereof several persons (who through many years industry in their trades and em- " ployments, and by great frugality have been enabled to purchase lands, or to lend monies " on land security) have been undone in their purchases and mortgages, by prior and secret " conveyances, and fraudulent incumbrances; and not only themselves, but their whole " families thereby utterly ruined. All the provisions and clauses in this act, were hereby ex- " tended

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1708 " tended to the honors, manors, lands, and tenements in the West Riding of that county; " the two former acts relating to it being found defective in several particulars."

Loud complaints being at this time made against the London pawn-brokers, on account of their grinding the faces of the poor by the extravagant usury they took for pledges or pawns; even the most moderate of them taking at least thirty per cent. and some twice as much; this produced an application to the crown, for a charter to incorporate a number of persons of credit, which they obtained, in the year 1708, under the name of the Charitable Corporation, for lending money to the industrious but necessitous poor at a moderate interest. Yet, as their capital was but thirty thousand pounds, they did not sufficiently extend their scheme until the year 1719, when several gentlemen of fortune came into it. Their conditions for lending were only ten per cent. viz. five per cent. as for mere interest, and the other five per cent. for supporting the expence of the corporation, such as house and warehouse rent, salaries of officers and servants, &c. In 1725, they obtained from the crown a further augmentation of their capital, and soon after another: and their directors proceeded to borrow large sums of money for the support of their scheme. But, in a few years after, a discovery was made of many and great frauds committed by their servants, such as, loans on fictitious pawns, embezzlements, &c. which occasioned a parliamentary enquiry; the result of which was, that, by such frauds and mismanagements, the corporation had not effects sufficient to pay even but a small part of the money they had borrowed at interest of a great number of persons, many of whom were thereby reduced to great distress; the whole amounting to four hundred and eighty-seven thousand eight hundred and ninety-five pounds fourteen shillings and ten-pence three farthings, to answer which there remained no more in money and other effects than thirty-four thousand one hundred and fifty pounds thirteen shillings and one-penny halfpenny, excepting what may be recovered from the debtors of the corporation, which (says the statute after-named) was then uncertain. Hereupon, the House of Commons expelled such of their members as were directors thereof; most of whom had in other respects retained, till that period, fair characters. And, in the year 1733, the Parliament, being the sixth of George the Second, cap. xxxv. granted a lottery for five hundred thousand pounds, for the relief of the sufferers, who, in the terms of this statute, shall appear to be objects of compassion to five Masters in Chancery, therein named; out of which twenty-five pounds per cent. was deducted for the benefit of the said sufferers, and was in the following year distributed amongst them, (after all the expence of this lottery was deducted) amounting to nine shillings and nine-pence per pound of their said loss; by an act of the eighth of King George the Second, cap. xi. in the year 1734.

1709 The general naturalization in England of foreign Protestants has been variously reasoned upon by many persons, in different periods. In the beginning of the year 1709, a bill was ordered into the House of Commons for that end; in favour of which, it was argued, that very great benefits would thereby accrue to Britain. That by the King of Prussia's inviting the French Refugees to settle in his dominions, he had fertilized a barren and ill-peopled country, improved its trade and manufactures, and increased his own revenues, &c. The preamble of the act, therefore, of this seventh of Queen Anne, cap. v. for naturalizing foreign Protestants, observes, that, " whereas the increase of people is a means of advancing the " wealth and strength of a nation,—it was therefore enacted,

" I. That all persons born out of the leigeance of her Majesty, who shall take and subscribe " the oaths, and the declaration of the sixth of this reign, shall be deemed, adjudged, and

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1709 " taken to be her Majesty's natural-born subjects.—Provided, they shall have received the " sacrament of the Lord's Supper in some Protestant or reformed congregation within this " kingdom of Great Britain, within three months before their taking the said oaths, and " shall produce a certificate signed by the person administering the said sacrament, and attested " by two credible witnesses.

" II. That the children of all natural-born subjects, though born out of the leigeance of " her Majesty, her heirs, and successors, shall be deemed and adjudged to be natural-born " subjects of this kingdom to all intents, constructions, and purposes whatsoever. And,

" III. The like naturalization of foreign Protestants shall take place in Ireland." This clause is further explained by cap. xxi. of the fourth of King George the Second. This law was said to have been made with a particular view to the Protestant Palatines brought this year into England.

For, in May in this same year, near seven thousand of the poor Palatines and Swabians, of and near the Rhine in Germany, who had been utterly ruined, and driven from their habitations by the French, were, in compassion of their misery, brought over to England, and were soon after followed by more: but without any settled or concerted plan for their establishment any where. Had they been all immediately transported to some one or more of our American continent colonies, they would before now have raised a considerably great addition to our strength in those parts. Others proposed to settle them in the New Forest of Hampshire, where lands might be parcelled out for them by shares or lots. It was, without doubt, an ill-conducted though well-meant affair. Being however come, there was a necessity of keeping them from perishing. A sufficient number of tents was erected for them on Blackheath and near Camberwell, and a brief throughout Great Britain was granted for a collection for them. Some of them were taken into private families: five hundred families of them were sent into Ireland, where twenty-four thousand pounds was granted by Parliament for their support. Three thousand of them were at length sent over to New York, and settled upon Hudson's river; yet many of whom being badly received there, they removed to Pennsylvania, where they were most kindly entertained by the Quakers, which afterward proved the means of drawing thither many thousands of German and Swiss Protestants, so that Pennsylvania is since become by far the most populous and flourishing colony (for its standing) of North America.

The new ministry influenced the House of Commons so far, in their new Parliament, in the year 1711, in order to cast an odium on the late administration, as to obtain a resolution of that House, " that the inviting over the said Palatines of all religions, at the public ex- " pence, was an extravagant and unreasonable charge to the kingdom, and a scandalous mis- " application of the public money; tending to the increase and oppression of the poor of this " kingdom, and of dangerous consequence to the constitution in church and state. And that " whoever advised the bringing them over was an enemy to the Queen and kingdom." Yet all further enquiry was dropped.

During all this reign, the bank of England had been extremely convenient and useful to the public, for the support of national credit: the better therefore to enable that corporation to be further beneficial to the public, as well as to themselves, by assisting in raising the supplies for the current service of the year 1709, the bank was encouraged to propose to the House of Commons, in this seventh year of Queen Anne, a scheme for circulating two millions five hundred thousand pounds of Exchequer bills; in which year the whole supply voted amount-

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1709 ed to above seven millions. An act of Parliament therefore passed in this year, cap. vii. "For "enlarging the capital stock of the Bank of England; and for raising a further supply to her "Majesty for the service of the year 1709. Wherein the act for the first establishment of the "bank, and all the subsequent statutes, are in part recited.—And that the bank continues to "permit new subscriptions for the doubling of their present stock of two millions two hund- "red and one thousand one hundred and seventy-one pounds ten shillings, by selling their "said additional stock at the rate of one hundred and fifteen pounds for every one hundred "pounds subscribed." All which was subscribed for between the hours of nine in the morning and one in the afternoon, on the first day of opening the subscription-books. This was by foreigners esteemed a pregnant proof of the great wealth of the nation, more especially as near one million more would have been on the same day subscribed, had there been room for it; so great was the crowd of people coming with their money to the books. But, like the East India Company's case, already recited, the bank hereby obliged themselves to advance to the government four hundred thousand pounds, without any additional allowance of interest for the last-named sum; which made their original capital of one million two hundred thousand pounds, at eight per cent. amount to one million six hundred thousand pounds, at six per cent. interest, to commence from the first of August, 1711, being their original yearly fund. And as the bank had six per cent. per annum, discount was thereby allowed them on the said four hundred thousand pounds till the first of August, 1711, for the money they were so to pay in; and the said fifteen per cent. advance on the sale of this additional stock, enabled them to make this payment of four hundred thousand pounds to the public.

	£.	s.	d.
Thus the bank capital (a part of which was only temporary) till now, was	2,201,171	10	0
And was now doubled — — —	2,201,171	10	0
	4,402,343	0	0
And by the four hundred thousand pounds now further advanced	400,000	0	0
The total was now to be, at six per cent. interest — —	4,802,343	0	0
In consideration of which sum of four hundred thousand pounds so lent, without any additional interest, their exclusive privileges, as a bank, were hereby prolonged to one year's notice, after the first of August, 1732.—But, by the same statute, the bank obliged themselves to pay off and cancel all the Exchequer bills which had been before issued, amounting, with their interest, at six per cent. to — — —	1,775,027	17	10½
Total capital of the bank, by this act, was — —	6,577,370	17	10½

Much about this same time, and probably by way of imitation, the French court formed a project for a royal bank, for the circulation of their mint-bills; but the great scarcity of money at that time in France rendered the design impracticable.

By this same act of Parliament, the bank was to remain and be an established corporation, notwithstanding the acts of the fifth and eighth of King William; and all their former privileges were now confirmed, as also their original annual fund of one hundred thousand pounds, until the whole one million six hundred thousand pounds should be paid off; and also the annuity of one hundred and six thousand five hundred and one pounds thirteen shillings and five-

pence,

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1709 pence, after-mentioned; and until all the Exchequer bills, to be made forth pursuant to this act, shall be called in, as herein after-mentioned, and payment made of the allowances for circulating the same. Then, and not before, the corporation was to cease and determine. The said one hundred and six thousand five hundred and one pounds thirteen shillings and five-pence, was to be the interest, at six per cent. of the said one million seven hundred and seventy-five thousand and twenty-seven pounds seventeen shillings and ten pence halfpenny. The bank to be allowed three per cent. per annum, for circulating the said two millions and a half of Exchequer bills, which were also to be at a like interest of three per cent. or two-pence per cent. per day, except when they shall be in the Exchequer, or in the hands of the receivers or collectors of any taxes, customs, &c. payable to her Majesty.—The bank might make calls on their members for enabling them to circulate the Exchequer bills.—The bank might make dividends to their members of their principal or capital stock, as they afterwards did of the said one million seven hundred and seventy-five thousand and twenty-seven pounds seventeen shillings and ten-pence halfpenny; which principal stock, however, shall always remain at least equal to all the debts they shall owe; otherwise the particular members, receiving such dividends, shall be answerable, so far as such dividends shall extend. The rest of this long act relates to the duties and taxes to be raised for a fund for paying the interest on the above-named principal sums.

By a printed paper in the authors collections, taken from a report to the House of Commons, we have the following accurate account of the revenue of the customs of Great Britain, for the year 1709, viz.

The gross amount of the customs, was — — —				£. 2,319,320
Deduct, viz.				
I. Salaries and incidents, — —	152,184,	12	1	
II. Debentures, or drawbacks, on foreign goods,	717,190,	17	2	
III. Bounty-money for corn exported, —	36,027	1	4	
IV. Allowances for damages and over-entries, —	57,075	15	0¼	
V. Portage paid to masters of ships — —	3,358	19	6	
				965,837
Nett amount of the customs, in the year 1709 —				£. 1,353,483

☞ See more, under the year 1715.

In Dr. D'Avenant's Report to the Commissioners of Accounts, part i. p. 32, London, 1712, he gives the total importation of tobacco from America into England, at a medium of ten years, ending in 1709, viz.

Imported, pounds weight, on a medium, yearly — —	28,858,666
Exported, on a like medium — — — —	17,598,007
Consumed at home, pounds weight — — —	11,260,659

In this same year, the British House of Commons took the African trade into their consideration, and, in a grand committee, resolved, "that as that trade was more especially "necessary for the British American plantations, it ought to be free to all her Majesty's sub-"jects, in a regulated, and not an exclusive company." Yet when a bill for that end was brought into the House, it met with so many objections that it was dropped for this time.

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1709 The regulations which had been legally made in the year 1698, concerning the trade to Africa, had not given satisfaction to the separate traders, on account of the company's bad conduct; which made those separate traders apply, as above, for such a law; as they also did in the year following, with equal success, after many hearings of the company as well as of the separate traders; the Parliament finding it extremely difficult to obviate and remove the objections started on either side, in relation to that commerce.

We need but just to mention the proposals of France, in the year 1709, and the conferences held, in consequence thereof, at Gertruydenberg, in the former part of the following year, for a general peace with the Grand Allies. They were, at best, but specious, and, in the opinion of the ablest judges, they were thought insidious; there being no solid security to the Allies that France would perform the conditions. It is true, that much worse terms of peace were concluded three years after this treaty was broken off: but as these bad terms were owing to a new English ministry, who, in order to keep themselves in power, were determined to abandon our allies rather than not obtain a peace with France, though on unworthy terms; the ministers of the allies, at Gertruydenberg, were not the less justifiable for breaking off the insecure proposals of an ever-perfidious enemy.

We have, in this year 1709, a third instance of the legal registering of deeds in England, in the seventh of Queen Anne, cap. xx. being a law made for the public registering of deeds, conveyances, and wills, and other incumbrances which shall be made of, or that may affect any honors, manors, lands, tenements, or hereditaments within the county of Middlesex. The preamble to which runs in such a strong and just strain, as seems well to merit the serious consideration of both the landed and monied interest in every other county of England, viz. " Whereas, by the different and secret ways of conveying lands, tenements, and heredita- " ments, such as are ill-disposed have it in their power to commit frauds, and frequently do " so, by means whereof several persons (who through many years industry in their trades " and employments, and by great frugality have been enabled to purchase lands, or to lend " monies on land security) have been undone in their purchases and mortgages by prior and " secret conveyances and fraudulent incumbrances; and not only themselves, but their whole " families thereby utterly ruined." Wherefore, it was now enacted, " that a memorial of " all deeds, &c. and of all wills and devices in writing, may be registered by the proper of- " ficers hereby appointed, for the fee of only one shilling. And every deed or conveyance " which shall hereafter be executed, shall be adjudged fraudulent and void against any sub- " sequent purchaser or mortgagee for valuable consideration, unless such memorial thereof be " registered as by this act is directed, before the registering of the memorial of the deed or " conveyance under which such subsequent purchaser or mortgagee shall claim: and the like " as to memorials of wills not registered." The preamble declares this act to have been made, " at the humble request of the justices of peace, gentlemen, and freeholders of the " county of Middlesex:"

Notwithstanding all which, and of the evident utility and safety of a general register for all England; an attempt for it, many years after this time, was unaccountably rejected.

1710 By an act of Parliament of the eighth of Queen Anne, cap. xii. " the entrance into the " port of Liverpool having been long experienced to be so dangerous and difficult," says its preamble, " that great numbers of strangers and others have frequently lost their lives with " ships and goods, for want of proper land marks, buoys, and other directions into the said " port or harbour, and more especially for want of a convenient wet dock or bason therein:

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1710 " the ſame was now hereby enacted to be made and effected, by laying a duty or tax, for " twenty-one years, from Midſummer 1710, on the tonnage of all ſhips trading to and from " the ſaid port to any part of Britain and Ireland, as well as to and from foreign countries." Which tonnage duties have fully anſwered the ends hereby propoſed, the ſaid wet dock, in particular, having been long ſince compleated to the great emolument of that moſt mercantile and opulent town, which is long ago become the third port (after London and Briſtol) of Great Britain, whether the number of its ſtout merchant ſhips, or of its opulent and reputable merchants be conſidered.

Under the year 1704, we have briefly laid open the iniquitous proceedings of Sir Humphry Mackworth and his tools, of the Mine-adventurers Company, to the great hurt of many perſons and families: the proprietors and creditors of that company having in this year petitioned the Houſe of Commons, a committee of that houſe was appointed to make a ſtrict enquiry into the ſame. The reſult was, that it appeared, they had loſt eighty-eight thouſand pounds by banking, and had ſquandered away great ſums on Sir Humphry Mackworth's other wild and wicked projects, (not material now to be enlarged on). Wherefore the Houſe of Commons, on the thirty-firſt of March, 1710, reſolved, *nemine contradicente*, " that it ap- " pears to this houſe, that Sir Humphry Mackworth is guilty of many notorious and ſcan- " dalous frauds and indirect practices, in violating the charter granted to the ſaid company, " in breach of his truſt, and to the manifeſt wrong and oppreſſion of the proprietors and " creditors of the company. And the like unanimity is voted againſt William Sheres, the " company's ſecretary, and Dykes, their treaſurer. And that a bill be brought in for pre- " venting them from leaving the kingdom, or alienating their eſtates." This arch hypocrite, pretending great zeal for religion, ſo called, and the Tory party, was thereby ſcreened from any further cenſure or ſuffering, by the new miniſtry, who, ſoon after this, got into power: and the above-mentioned bill was prevented from paſſing into a law by the adjournment of the ſaid Parliament. And, notwithſtanding all the above diſgrace received by Sir Humphry Mackworth, he had the effrontery to appear again at the head of this company with new propoſals, in the year 1720, though then and ever ſince, little better than a mere bubble.

The ſtatute of the fifty-firſt year of King Henry the Third, in the year 1266, entitled, *Aſſiza Panis et Cerviciæ, i. e.* For ſettling the Aſſize of Bread and Ale, being now obſcure, and otherwiſe impracticable for modern times, the poorer ſort of people, more eſpecially, had ſince been deceived and oppreſſed by an almoſt total neglect, in many places, of the due aſſize and reaſonable price of bread; " for remedy whereof, and that a plain and conſtant rule and " method may henceforward be duly obſerved and kept, in the making and aſſizing of the " ſeveral ſorts of bread made for ſale," ſays the preamble to an act of Parliament of the eighth of Queen Anne, cap. xviii. it was now enacted, " that ſo much of the ſtatute of the ſaid " fifty-firſt year of King Henry the Third, as relates to the aſſize of bread, be repealed. And " that from the firſt of May 1710, the court of the lord mayor and aldermen of London and " its liberties, or the lord mayor alone, by the order of the ſaid court; and the mayor, bailiffs, " aldermen, and other chief magiſtrates of any other city or town corporate; and two or " more juſtices of the peace, in ſuch places where there ſhall be no ſuch mayor, &c. ſhall " reſpectively, and from time to time, aſcertain and appoint, within their reſpective juriſ- " dictions, the aſſize and weight of all ſorts of bread, to be ſold by any baker or other perſon " whatſoever,—having reſpect to the price which the grain, meal, or flour, whereof ſuch " bread ſhall be made, ſhall bear in the ſeveral public markets, in or about the city, town

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1710 " corporate, burgh, or place, where ſuch aſſize ſhall be ſo ſet, making reaſonable allowance " to the bakers for their charges, pains and livelihoods; the ſaid aſſize to be ſet in Averdupois weight."

" Moreover, it was enacted, " that none ſhall make for ſale any ſorts of bread, but white, " wheaten, and houſhold; and ſuch other ſort and ſorts of bread as ſhall be publicly licenſed " and allowed by the before-named magiſtrates in London and elſewhere. All which ſeveral " ſorts of bread ſhall be made in their ſeveral reſpective degrees, according to the goodneſs of " the ſeveral ſorts of grain whereof the ſame ought to be made; and the aſſize and weight of " the ſaid white, wheaten, and houſhold bread made of wheat, ſhall be ſet and aſcertained " according to the table annexed." Being a table of the aſſize of bread, in pounds, ounces, and drams, Averdupois weight, reſpecting, or in proportion to the price of the buſhel of wheat, and the baking, from a penny loaf to an eighteen-penny loaf, of the ſaid three ſorts of flour, viz. white, wheaten, and houſhold.

" And to the intent that this law may be effectually complied with, every baker ſhall fairly " imprint or mark on his loaves, the ſort, price, and weight of ſuch loaf, or ſuch other mark " as the ſaid magiſtrates ſhall direct; who are alſo hereby authorized, from time to time, to " limit, direct, and appoint, in what manner each ſort of bread ſhall be marked; or to make " any other reaſonable rules and orders for the better regulating of bakers, and of the whole " of this buſineſs of the aſſize of bread. And bakers contravening this law and the magiſ- " trates ſaid reaſonable regulations, on the confeſſion of the party, or on the oath of one or " more credible witneſs or witneſſes, before any of the ſaid magiſtrates, ſhall for every ſuch " offence forfeit the ſum of forty ſhillings to the informer. Which conviction ſhall be cer- " tified to the general quarter-ſeſſions, to be there entered upon record. But the proſecution " of ſuch offence ſhall be commenced within three days next after the offence committed: " and the offender may appeal to the next quarter ſeſſions, when, failing of his allegations, " he ſhall pay coſts; as, on the other hand, the informer ſhall do, to the baker, if he fail " in his allegations.

" Bakers, mixing any other grain in their bread than the three ſorts herein mentioned, " ſhall forfeit twenty ſhillings; and any magiſtrate, wilfully omitting the performance of his " duty herein, ſhall forfeit the like ſum. Any of the within named magiſtrates may, in the " day time, enter into any baker's houſe or ſhop, for ſearching, weighing, and trying of his " bread, which, if deficient either in weight, due baking, or not being duly marked, or of a " worſe quality than is directed by this act, may be ſeized and given to the poor; and the " baker, making reſiſtance, ſhall forfeit forty ſhillings. This act ſhall not affect the privi- " leges of the two Engliſh Univerſities; and ſhall continue for three years, and till the end of " the next ſeſſion of Parliament."

The due aſſize of bread being ſo neceſſary for our manufacturers and artificers, as well as for all other people, this abſtract of ſo good a law, ſince made perpetual, ſeemed proper to be now exhibited.

By two well-judged acts of Queen Anne's ſeventh and eighth years (the former, cap. xxvi.; the latter, cap. xxi.) for the better ſecuring her Majeſty's docks, ſhips of war, and ſtores, commiſſioners were appointed to treat for the purchaſe of ſuch lands, tenements, &c. as ſhould be judged proper for the better fortifying of Portſmouth, Chatham, and Harwich; *i. e.* for enlarging and ſtrengthening their fortifications. And proper juries were to be ſummoned for aſcertaining the juſt value of all ſuch lands and hereditaments as ſhould be wanted for thoſe

purpoſes.

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1710 purposes. We shall hereafter see that this good plan has been since enlarged, and also further extended to Plymouth and Milford-haven, and greater quantities of ground have been purchased for extending and improving the fortifications of Portsmouth, Chatham, and Plymouth; which, nevertheless, are, by most good judges of fortifications, still thought, in some respects, insufficient, considering the great danger the navy-royal and the royal stores would be exposed to, were an enemy vigorously to attack Portsmouth, Plymouth, or Chatham.

The Czar of Muscovy's rapid progress against Sweden had now well-nigh ruined that kingdom; for he not only reduced part of Finland, all Carelia, and the isle of Oesel; but, what was much more valuable than them all, the flower of all the Swedish dominions, the rich, commercial and extensive country of Livonia, with the cities and ports of Riga, Revel, Narva, Pernau, &c. all which Russia retains to this day; thereby, in the opinion of many, discomposing the balance of power and of commerce in the North.

In this year General Nicholson, with a force from England jointly with the New England forces, attacked and easily reduced a part of Nova Scotia, and particularly the fort of Port Royal, (which had been yielded to France by the peace of Ryswick) changing its name to that of Annapolis Royal, which it still retains, being also afterward confirmed to us by the peace of Utrecht. It stands in the Bay of Fundy, on the edge of a fine harbour or bason, capable of receiving one thousand ships, with good anchorage in all parts of it. This port was the rendezvous of French privateers in time of war, and of the French Indians for invading the eastern frontiers of New England; and therefore of the greater importance to be secured to us.

According to Dr. D'Avenant's New Dialogues, published in the year 1710, vol. ii. p. 74, there was coined in England between the years 1659 and 1710, in gold and silver, the sum of twenty one millions four hundred and nineteen thousand three hundred and seven pounds. Concerning which recoinages, enough has been said in different parts of this work.

The same author, *ibid.* p. 95, says, he is credibly informed, "that the bank of Am-"sterdam contains no less, in effectual gold and silver, than thirty-six millions, sterling." Yet our great Sir William Temple writes with more caution on this particular point, as already related.

1711 It having been found inconvenient, that any person should, at one and the same time, be a director of the Bank of England and of the East India Company: it was in this same year accordingly decreed, by a clause in an act of Parliament, of the ninth of Queen Anne, cap. vii. (for enabling and obliging the Bank of England, for the time therein mentioned, to exchange all Exchequer-bills for ready money upon demand) to disable any person to be governor, deputy governor, or director of the Bank of England, and a director of the East India Company, at the same time.

By the tenth act of the said ninth year of Queen Anne, the former laws for establishing the post-offices in both kingdoms of England and Scotland were repealed; and one general post-office, as also one general post-master, was now appointed for the united kingdom: and also a chief letter-office was erected at Edinburgh, Dublin, New York, and the West Indies.—Whereby also the postage of letters was increased, viz. what paid before but two-pence now paid three-pence, and for double letters six-pence, &c. "And for the port of all and every "the letters and packets, by the carriage called the Penny-post, established within London, "Westminster, and Southwark, and parts adjacent, and to be received and delivered within

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1711 " ten miles from the ſaid general letter-office in London, one penny," which is the firſt mention of a penny-poſt in the ſtatute book. See the year 1683.

By this act the amount (groſs) for one year, ended at Michaelmas 1710, of the poſt-office, was — — — — £. 111,461 s. 17 d. 10

Dr. D'Avenant's New Dialogues make the net amount, on a medium of the three laſt years, to be — — — — 56,664 19 10½

By an act of the ſaid ninth of Queen Anne, cap. xvii. for the preſerving of white and other pine trees, growing in her Majeſty's colonies of New Hampſhire, the Maſſachuſet's Bay, and province of Main, Rhode Iſland, and Providence Plantation; the Naraganſet-country or King's Province, and Connecticut in New England, alſo in New York, and New Jerſey, in America, for the maſtering of her Majeſty's navy; it is enacted, " that whereas there are " great numbers of thoſe trees growing in the ſaid provinces, near the ſea and on navigable " rivers, which may be commodiouſly brought into this kingdom for that ſervice: for the " better preſervation thereof,—no perſon after the twenty-fourth of September, 1711, in any " of the ſaid colonies ſhall preſume to cut, fell, or deſtroy any of thoſe trees fit for maſts, " not being the property of any private perſon, if ſuch tree be of the growth of twenty-four " inches diameter and upwards, at twelve inches from the earth; without the Queen's licence " firſt obtained; on the penalty of one hundred pounds ſterling, for every offence,—moiety " to the Queen, moiety to the informer. And whereas the Queen's ſurveyor-general, or his " deputy, is authorized to mark with a broad arrow all ſuch trees as are, or hereafter ſhall be " fit for the royal navy, and to keep a regiſter of the ſame. None others but him or his " deputies ſhall preſume to mark ſuch trees as aforeſaid, though growing on common lands, " under the penalty of five pounds for every ſuch offence."

This law, the firſt of the kind for maſts, has proved extremely uſeful for maſting the royal navy, and has alſo ſaved much money formerly ſent to Norway for that purpoſe.

By an act of Parliament of the ſaid ninth of Queen Anne, cap. xxiii. for licenſing and regulating hackney coaches and chairs, (as alſo for new duties on ſtamps, leather, ſalt, &c. and other purpoſes) eight hundred coaches, paying five ſhillings weekly, and two hundred ſedan chairs, at ten ſhillings each yearly, within London, Weſtminſter, and Southwark, and the weekly bills of mortality, are enacted to be under the management of five commiſſioners. One mile and a half for a ſhilling fare, and two miles for one ſhilling and ſix-pence, and above two miles two ſhillings, and ſo for a greater diſtance, in proportion for coaches: and for chairs, the rule to be, that chairs ſhall have the ſame money for two-thirds of thoſe diſtances. By the tenth of Queen Anne, one hundred more chairs were added: then in all to be three hundred. The ſaid duties to commence from Midſummer 1715, and to continue from thence for thirty-two years. For raiſing of two millions by a lottery. " And whereas the proprietors " and inhabitants of the iſlands of Nevis and St. Chriſtopher's in America, did ſuſtain very " great loſſes by a late invaſion of the French,—and it became neceſſary to give ſome en" couragement to the ſufferers, for reſettling their plantations, the ſum therefore of one " hundred and three thouſand and three pounds, eleven ſhillings and four-pence, ſhall be " diſtributed amongſt ſuch proprietors only as have reſettled or ſhall reſettle in thoſe two " iſlands, in proportion to their loſſes, by debentures to be iſſued by the commiſſioners for " trade and plantations, at ſix per cent. intereſt." The French had committed cruel ravages and depredations on thoſe iſlands; and it appears by an act of the tenth of Queen Anne, cap. xxxiv. that thoſe debentures, ſo made out, amounted to one third part of the whole loſs of

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1711 the sufferers. Moreover, by an act of the fifth year of George the First, for relief of such sufferers in those two islands as had resettled in either of them; the distribution of the above-named sum is further regulated; and by one of the eighth of that King, their principal sum unpaid, and the large arrears of interest thereon, joined together, has an interest of three per cent. settled thereon.

By another act of Parliament of the said ninth year of Queen Anne, cap. xxiv. for relief of the creditors and proprietors of the company of Mine-adventurers of England, &c. It appears, "that the said company had (through the great expence of working their mines, &c.) "contracted so great a debt as to be altogether unable to pay the same; whereby, and by the "disputes arisen amongst their members, and between the company and their creditors, the "working of their mines was almost totally interrupted: and whereas their mines are so valu-"able, that, were they established under good management, great profit would accrue to the "public;—it was therefore enacted, that all grants, contracts, bargains, &c. to any persons "by that company, since they first stopped payment, in the year 1707, of their bills or bonds, "be hereby declared void;—and that all new shares in their stock, above the six thousand "and twelve allowed by their charter, be also made null and void, and the proprietors of "them to be only deemed creditors of the company for the value thereof. The money ad-"vanced on the call made in the year 1708, to be allowed in the present call, and the surplus "to be turned into stock. All bargains for ore or lead, &c. since that company stopped "payment, shall remain good. The creditors of the company are hereby made members of "and partners with the company's six thousand and twelve shares. A deputy-governor and "twelve directors to be annually elected for managing the company's affairs. Shares to be "transferable. After the death of the Duke of Leeds, the present governor for life, a go-"vernor to be annually elected agreeable to the charter. And no member shall be elected "governor above one year in four. The company may call in forty shillings per share, for "carrying on the business of the mines."

This statute was made in consequence of the union between the creditors of this company and the proprietors of the shares, agreed at a general meeting, which, however, was not sufficient to keep this ill-conducted company from sinking: although fresh proposals were afterwards published for further payments on each share, in order to carry on the mines with vigour and spirit. To say all, in one word, Sir Humphry Mackworth and his associates carried their artifices to the very utmost; and instead of hurting the party opponents, drew in all the zealous of the party disaffected to the established constitution, to the undoing of many innocent persons and families.

The cities of London and Westminster and parts adjacent being principally supplied with coals, by sea, from the counties of Durham and Northumberland, and the town of Newcastle upon Tyne: "and in consideration that the having them cheap tends greatly to the im-"provement of the manufactures, and to the increase of the commerce and navigation of the "kingdom, by breeding many thousands of skilful mariners," (says the preamble to an act of Parliament, of the ninth of Queen Anne, cap. xxviii. to dissolve the present and prevent the future combination of coal-owners, lighter-men, masters of ships, and others, to advance the price of coals, in prejudice of the navigation, trade, and manufactures of this kingdom, and for the further encouragement of the coal trade,) "for the relief of the poor and the "better advancing the duties on coals,—it is necessary the same should not be monopolized." Wherefore it was enacted, "that all contracts between coal-owners, lightermen, fitters, mas-

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1711 "ters of ships, crimps, coal-factors, &c. for engrossing of coals, or for restraining any "whomsoever from freely selling, buying, loading, or unloading, navigating or disposing of "coals, in such manner as they lawfully may, shall hereby be deemed illegal, null and void, "to all intents and purposes. And that if any coal-owners, lightermen, &c. before-named, shall hereafter keep up, continue, act in, enter into, make, sign, seal, or be knowingly "interested or concerned in any such contract,—shall, if a coal-owner, forfeit one hundred "pounds; if a fitter, fifty pounds; if a ship master or owner, twenty pounds, and the like "sum for every officer, clerk, agent, or servant.

"Fitters, or other persons vending or delivering coals, shall give ample signed certificates "to every ship master, every voyage, containing the day and year of such loading, the "master's and ship's name, and the exact quantity of coals, with the usual names of the "several collieries out of which the coals were wrought or gotten, and the price paid by the "master for each sort of coals that such fitter hath sold and loaded on board such ship. Such "certificate, on the ship's arrival at London, shall be registered at the Cocquet-office appoint-"ed by the Lord Mayor, or at the Custom-house of any other port. And the refusing to "give such certificate, or the giving a false one, as also the not registering such certificate, in "forty-eight hours after the ship's arrival at London, or other port, by the ship-master; or "the person keeping the register, neglecting twenty-four hours to make such register, or "their making a false entry thereof; or, lastly, his refusing to shew such entry: in each of "those cases, they shall forfeit ten pounds. Lightermen, ship masters, crimps, or coal-"factors, receiving salaries or gratuities from coal owners, either by the year or chaldron, "for contracting, buying, vending, or disposing of any particular sort of coals, in prefer-"ence to other sorts,—or for the loading of any ship,—or for the disposal of the coals from "any such ship before other ships,—or shall knowingly sell one sort of coals for and as a sort "which they really are not: for every such offence they shall forfeit fifty pounds. Offenders "discovering within three months the coal-owners, &c. concerned in such offences, shall be "indemnified and receive the reward due to any other discoverer.

"Any number of ships, above fifty, remaining laden in the port of Newcastle or other "port, bound for London, above seven days, unless detained by contrary winds, or want of "repairs or convoys, or some other unavoidable cause, every master of such ship shall forfeit "fifty pounds. Crimps, husbands, and coal-agents, vending coals to his own agents, part-"ners, or servants, &c. in trust for his or their own benefit, shall forfeit fifty pounds. This "act to be in force only for three years, and to the end of the next session of Parliament."

From the judicious Mr. Wood's Survey of Trade, we learn, that, upon a medium of four years, viz. from 1707 to 1710, both included, England's exports of merchandize to foreign parts exceeded her imports two millions three hundred and eighty-nine thousand eight hundred and seventy-two pounds, or, in other words, England annually gained so much by her foreign commerce.

In Dr. D'Avenant's report this year to the commissioners of public accounts, the proportion of the amount of the customs received at the port of London, to the amount of the customs of all the out-ports, was as one million two hundred and sixty-eight thousand and ninety-five pounds to three hundred and forty-six thousand and eighty-one pounds, which is considerably above three and a half to one.

The new British ministry had laid a plan, in the Spring of the year 1711, by the solicitation of General Nicholson, (who came home to England purposely on that design) for the

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1711 attack of Placentia in Newfoundland, and (which was of still more importance) for the conquest of Quebec and the rest of Canada, from France. Troops were early enough broug over from Flanders to Portsmouth, and in April 1711 a powerful armament sailed from Portsmouth, and in May from Plymouth; the fleet of twelve ships of war and fifty transports, commanded by Sir Hovenden Walker, and the six thousand land forces by Brigadier Hill. At Boston in New England they were detained too long, viz. till the thirtieth of July, in order to supply themselves with provisions, &c. which, it was said, they ought, for dispatch, to have carried with them from England; so, that they sailed into the river St. Lawrence considerably too late in the year; whilst General Nicholson, with two thousand provincials and two thousand Palatines and Indians, proceeded, over land, to Albany. When they had got a little way up that dangerous river of St. Lawrence, they met with very tempestuous weather, and being driven among rocks and small islands, it was not without the greatest hazard that the ships of war escaped being lost; but eight transports were cast away, with the loss of about eight hundred men, officers, soldiers, and sailors; and many of the other ships were miserably shattered: wherefore it was determined to return to England, which they accordingly did in October, the same year, without having made any attempt on the French at Placentia. This unsuccessful attempt was the first and only warlike one undertaken by that ministry, which disappointment was no small mortification to them, as it had cost the public a great sum of money. It was the third unsuccessful undertaking against Canada, but the first directly from Great Britain. Possibly our people at home and the British colonies in North America might have been somewhat influenced, and formed their hope of success from what the French Baron Lahontan says, in his Description of Canada, in the year 1703, viz. that there is a general opinion in Canada, that their colony will sooner or later be conquered by the English. This, however, was an ill-conducted enterprize.

The English African Company now petitioned the House of Commons for leave to bring in a bill for the confirmation of their exclusive charter. But the petitions from private traders, as well as from the British American colonies, for laying that trade quite open, effectually frustrated the company's petition. Yet nothing further was done, at this time, in relation to the African trade, except that the House of Commons addressed the Queen to direct care to be taken of the forts, &c. on the Guinea coast, until further provision shall be made.

The new Prime Minister of Great Britain, the Earl of Oxford, now created Lord Treasurer, upon his accession to power, saw it to be his interest to put an end to the war with France and Spain, as soon as possible; and was now actually treating of a separate peace with those powers; though at the expence o fourth en allies and of our national honour and true interest. Yet, as he could not prudently avoid the carrying it on, at least for the year 1711, and until he could more firmly fix himself in power, he judged it principally necessary to find means to quiet the minds of the monied people by restoring the public credit, which was at this time greatly affected by the late change in the ministry, and had occasioned the Bank of England to be much run upon: and as the bulk of the monied men, and of the proprietors of the national funds, were averse to his new measures, it was his great aim to bring them into good humour.

There happened at this time to be a very large arrear of navy, victualling, and transport debentures, and also of army debentures, &c. without any established fund for putting them into a regular course of being discharged: for this reason principally, as well as partly on account of this change in the ministry, they were at a large discount at market, whereby the

distrust

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1711 distrust which the proprietors had before generally entertained of the new ministry was greatly heightened: if therefore a fund could be established for the regular payment of the interest of this large arrear, and at the same time plausible means could be devised to give the creditors the hope of further advantages by a new and alluring commerce, he prudently thought he should obtain his principal end. We must here previously observe, that some of our adventurers to Spanish America, in Queen Elizabeth's time, as well as the late Buccaneers, had raised in the minds of the people the highest ideas of the advantages of a trade thither; which ideas were further heightened by observing the vast riches which France had brought home from thence, since the Duke of Anjou had ruled in Spain: moreover, it was remembered, that so early as the twenty-first year of King James the First, a company or association was proposed in the House of Commons for a Spanish West India trade: in the reign of King William also, as well as in the former part of the present reign, during the Lord Godolphin's ministry, there had been much discourse of an expedition to the Spanish West Indies, in conjunction with the Dutch, in order there to make some permanent settlement for commerce. There were also certain schemes handed about and published for making settlements (by force) in the South Seas of America, in contemplation of the vast plenty of gold, silver, and rich drugs, &c. there to be found, and of the immense profit made by the Spaniards on the European merchandize sent thither; which considerations, joined to the feebleness of the Spanish government in those parts, were plausible allurements for a nation of so enterprizing and commercial a genius as ours, to strive for sharing such advantages at first hand. Moreover, to make the new ministry's separate negociations with the enemy to be better relished, it was industriously given out by their emissaries, that Great Britain was to have a concession from Spain of four ports in the South Seas, on the coasts of Peru and Chili, for the security of her commerce there. But, without enlarging further on such romantic schemes, we shall now observe, that the new prime minister procured an act of Parliament of the ninth year of Queen Anne, for making good deficiencies, and satisfying the public debts: for erecting a corporation to carry on a trade to the South Seas; for the encouragement of the fishery: and for liberty to trade in unwrought iron with the subjects of Spain: and to repeal the acts for registering of seamen.

This act first states the deficiencies and debts unprovided for, viz. the navy debt, office of ordnance debt, transport debt, army debentures, deficient tallies and orders on coals, subsidies to the Elector of Hanover and Duke of Zell: with the interest on such of all these as carried any interest, and also monies advanced on several duties on goods imported, for the service of the year 1710; and five hundred thousand pounds to be raised for the service of the year 1711:

	£.	s.	d.
The total of all which amounted to — — —	9,471,325	0	0
The interest whereof, at six per cent. was — —	568,279	10	0

For the payment whereof this act makes perpetual the duties on wines, vinegar, tobacco, East India goods, wrought silks, whale-fins, and several other duties which were appropriated for certain years to come for other purposes, and in the mean time the deficiency of this yearly fund was to be made good by the treasurer of the navy. The surplus, if any, to go towards paying off the above named capital, hereby made redeemable on one year's notice after Christmas 1716. The said yearly fund to be payable weekly, and to commence from Christmas 1711.

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1711 I. "And to the intent, that the trade to the South Seas may be carried on for the honour "and increase of the wealth and riches of this realm: her Majesty is hereby impowered to "incorporate all the proprietors of the said debts;—(in the usual stile and form)—This act "allows the company eight thousand pounds per annum for charges of management: and, "for the better securing the privileges of the Bank of England, this new company shall not "borrow money on their bills or notes, on demand, nor at any less time than six months: "neither shall they discount bills of exchange, nor any other bills or notes whatsoever; nor "shall keep any books or cash for any persons or corporations, excepting their own alone.

II. "And whereas it is of the greatest consequence to the honour and welfare of this king-"dom, and for the increase of the strength and riches thereof, and for the vending the pro-"duct and manufacture, goods and merchandize of, or brought into, this kingdom, and the "employment of the poor; that a trade should be carried on to the South Seas and other parts "in America, herein after mentioned, which cannot so securely and successfully be begun "and carried on as by a corporation with a joint-stock, exclusive of all others. For the "better encouragement of the members of the said intended company: be it enacted,

III. "That this company shall, from the first of August 1711, be vested for ever in the "sole trade ano traffic, unto and from all the kingdoms, lands, islands, cities, towns, ports, "creeks, and places in America, on the east side thereof, from the river of Aranoca to the "southermost part of the Terra del Fuego; and on the west side thereof, from the said south-"ermost part of the said Terra del Fuego, through the South Seas, to the northermost part "of America; and into, unto, and from all countries, &c. within the said limits, which are "reputed to belong to the crown of Spain, or which shall hereafter be found out or discover-"ed within the said limits, not exceeding three hundred leagues from the continent of Ame-"rica, between the southermost part of Terra del Fuego, and the northermost part of America, "on the west side thereof, (except the kingdom of Brasil, and such other places on the said east "side of America, as are now in the actual possession of the crown of Portugal, and the country "of Surinam in the possession of the States General of the United Provinces). It not being "intended, that the sole trade to any part of the east side of America, now in the actual pos-"session of the crown of Portugal or the States General shall be granted by this act: but it "shall be and remain lawful for all her Majesty's subjects to trade and traffic thither,—as "fully and freely, in all respects, as they might or could do if this act had not been made.

IV. "None shall trade within those limits, but the company, their agents, and factors.

V. "The Queen may, in her intended charter of incorporation, impower the said com-"pany to make laws for the good government of their trade, &c. and to inflict reasonable "penalties, by imprisonments and mulcts for any breach thereof.

VI. "Forfeiture of ships and merchandize and double their value, for any but the com-"pany, or those licensed by the company, trading to, or frequenting any part of their before-"named limits; one-fourth to the crown; one-fourth to the informer; and one-half to the "company.

VII. "The company to be the sole owners and proprietors of all islands, forts, towns, "and places, which they shall hereafter discover within their said limits; to hold the same of "the crown, in free and common soccage by fealty, on the annual rent of an ounce of gold, "if demanded.

VIII. "All prizes of ships and merchandize, taken by the company, shall be their sole "property: for which end they may seize by force of arms the persons (with their ships and goods) trading within their limits.

IX. "The

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1711 IX. "The company's bonds ſhall charge as well as their annual fund, as their other ſtock, " effects, and eſtate; and ſhall be aſſignable by indorſement. And it ſhall be felony to coun- " terfeit their common ſeal or bonds, or to alter or utter the ſame knowingly.

X. "The company not to ſail into any of the before-named limits beyond the Terra del " Fuego, except only through the Streights of Magellan, or elſe round the ſaid Terra del " Fuego; nor ſhall ſail from thence into any part of the Eaſt Indies; neither ſhall they re- " turn to Great Britain or to any other part of Europe, Aſia, Africa, or America, by any " other way except through the ſaid Streights of Magellan, or by Terra del Feugo aforeſaid: " neither ſhall they trade in the goods of India, Perſia, or China, nor in any other commo- " dities of the countries within the limits of the Eaſt India Company. Nor ſhall this new " company's ſhips ſail further weſt from the ſhores of Chili, Peru, Mexico, California, or " any other ſhores contained between Terra del Fuego and the northermoſt part of America, " than three hundred leagues; under forfeiture of ſhips, merchandize, and double the value: " one-third to the crown, and two-thirds to the Eaſt India Company.

" XI. "And foraſmuch as nothing can more conduce to the increaſe of the ſtrength and " riches of this kingdom, and the breeding of able ſeamen,—than the preſerving and enlarg- " ing of the fiſhery;—wherefore the Queen may, in her charter to this company, direct a " ſtock of twenty ſhillings upon every hundred pounds of the capital ſtock of the company, " to be kept apart, and always employed for carrying on, improving, and enlarging the fiſhery " of this realm, or any other fiſhery; ſo as none other of the Queen's ſubjects be excluded " the fiſhing trade. And ſo as no calls of money for the fiſhery, or for any other parts of " the company's trade, be made but by order of a general court, on a fortnight's notice.

XII. "Neither the governors nor directors of this company ſhall be capable of being ſuch " in the Bank nor in the Eaſt India Company, at the ſame time."

This is the ſubſtance of this famous act, which was then, and is ſtill generally called the Earl of Oxford's maſter-piece; although it be nevertheleſs extremely plain, that the outline of his ſcheme was borrowed from the memorable act of the eighth and ninth of King William, cap. xix. for doubling the capital of the Bank of England, in the year 1697; the trade to the South Seas and that of the fiſhery, being the only new thoughts, by way of douceur.

The royal charter was dated the eighth of September 1711, incorporating the ſubſcribers of thoſe debts by the name of The Governor and Company of Merchants of Great Britain trading to the South Seas and other parts of America, and for encouraging the fiſhery. It recites the before-named act of Parliament, and grants that the company ſhall have a court of directors, and directs the manner of their proceedings in that court, and of their general courts, their manner of elections, qualification of the electors and elected, &c. which are unneceſſary to be particularly recited in this place. That defaulters in not paying in of calls, and all other debtors to the company, ſhall not be permitted to transfer their ſtock, nor to receive their dividends, without the conſent of the court of directors. That the company may appoint courts of Judicature in their forts, factories, and ſettlements, for determining of cauſes mercantile and maritime, with an appeal to the Queen and Council:—may raiſe a military force for the defence of their forts and ſettlements, as well as for acquiring of others within their limits. And by an act of Parliament of the tenth of Queen Anne, in the year 1712, all the powers, privileges of commerce, &c. were made perpetual to the company, notwithſtanding any redemption of their fund.

Upon the eſtabliſhment of this company, with a proper fund, their ſtock advanced very conſiderably in price, and ſo continued gradually to riſe in price, by this ſo called maſter-piece of the

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1711 the Lord Treasurer. Whereupon, the company's general court, in consequence of the Queen's assurances of assisting the company with a sufficient force for establishing their trade to the South Seas; resolved to carry on their said trade, with a cargo to be prepared for the year 1712, of two hundred thousand pounds value.

Accordingly, in July 1712, two hundred thousand pounds was issued in bonds, under th company's common seal. Yet, although a cessation of arms was, in this same year, agreed on with France and Spain, the company did not however judge matters ripe enough for their sending out of any ships this year; the peace with France not being actually signed till the thirty-first of March 1713, nor with Spain till the second of July following.

In November 1711, the prices of the public stocks were as follows, viz.

English East India stock	£.124½
Bank stock	111¼
South Sea stock	77½
Royal African stock	4½

1712 The late total change of the British ministry had by this time made new and strange alterations of things formerly in good esteem. Thus, for one instance, the general naturalization of foreign Protestants, which had been enacted not quite three years before, and by that act was declared to be a likely means of advancing the wealth and strength of a nation, and which had been attempted to be repealed in the preceding year; but the bill was rejected by the House of Peers; is now, by an act of the tenth of Queen Anne, totally repealed; and the grounds for that repeal are therein assigned to be, "because divers mischiefs and inconveniencies have "been found by experience to follow from the same, to the discouragement of the natural-"born subjects of this kingdom, and to the detriment of the trade and wealth thereof."

That great number of sober and industrious subjects are the chief strength and wealth of a nation, will scarcely be controverted by any who understand the true and solid interests of nations and communities. The instance of the King of Prussia's inviting the French Protestant Refugees to settle in his dominions, as quoted in the former statute, and their general admission into the United Provinces, in both which countries they have done immense benefit to their protectors, have strongly verified the above position in the first-named statute.

In Holland, says Dr. D'Avenant, in the second part of his Discourses on the public Revenues and Trade of England, London, 1698, p. 117. "There is reason to think, that the "national stock of that state is increased near eight millions since the war: in regard that by "the wisdom of their constitution they invite daily to them, and increase in number of in-"habitants."

To what difficulties, and even distresses, have we very lately been reduced, from a real want of men for our fleets and armies: yet it still appears, from the disposition of even great numbers of persons of knowledge and abilities in our own days, that the old prejudices (if we may be allowed to call them so) against a general naturalization are not as yet easily to be overcome.

A spirit of gaming at this time in smaller private and unlawful lotteries, under the denomination of sales of gloves, fans, cards, plate, &c. also offices for insurances on marriages, births, christenings, services, &c. and daily advertisements thereof were published in the newspapers; and for the improvement of small sums of money. A clause therefore was inserted in an act of the tenth year of Queen Anne, entitled, An Act for laying additional Duties on Hides, Skins, &c. whereby a penalty of five hundred pounds was enacted on any persons setting up such offices, lotteries, &c.

The

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1712 The African Company's affairs being much in diforder, in this fame year 1712, an act of the tenth of Queen Anne, " for making effectual fuch agreement as fhall be made between " the Royal African Company of England and their creditors."

" For the benefit of their faid creditors, it was enacted, that two-thirds or more of them, " in number and value, may, on or before the twentieth of December, 1712, under hand and " feal, confent to allow to that company a fpace of time for payment of their debts, or to " make any other agreements with that company touching their faid debts: which agreements " (by two-thirds, &c. as above) fhall bind, and conclude all the reft of thofe creditors.— " Saving always the Queen's duties." On this occafion, there were feveral refolutions of the Houfe of Commons, which in part teftify the great importance of this trade, both for fupplying our fugar and other American colonies: as,

Firft, That this trade ought to be free for all the King's fubjects, in a regulated company.

Secondly, That forts and fettlements on that coaft are neceffary.

Thirdly, Which forts fhould be maintained out of the trade.

Fourthly, That contracts and alliances are neceffary to be maintained with the natives.

Fifthly, That the plantations fhould be fupplied with a fufficient quantity of negroes at reafonable rates.

Sixthly, That a confiderable ftock is neceffary for carrying on of that trade.

Seventhly, That it is neceffary that an exportation, of at leaft one hundred thoufand pounds in merchandize, be annually made from Great Britain thither.

The firft fix of thofe refolutions were confirmed, but the feventh was rejected; and a bill was thereupon ordered into the Houfe; but it did not fucceed.

In this tenth year of Queen Anne, an act of Parliament, cap. xxviii. paffed, " for con- " tinuing the trade and corporation capacity of the United Eaft India Company, although " their fund fhould be redeemed." It having been enacted by the ftatute of the fixth of Queen Anne, " that upon payment to the company of the three million two hundred thou- " fand pounds due by the public, upon three years notice after Lady-day 1726,—the benefit " of their trade fhall ceafe and determine. Yet, upon the faid company's humble petition, " and to the intent that the company and their fucceffors may be the better encouraged to " proceed in their trade, and to make fuch lafting fettlements for the fupport and maintenance " thereof for the benefit of the Britifh nation:" It was now enacted, " that not only the " provifo in the above-named ftatute for the redemption and determination of the duties on " falt and ftamps, and of five per cent. on imported Eaft India goods, and their yearly fund, " but likewife of the benefit of the trade and of the corporation, is hereby repealed and made " void: and that the faid duties and fund fhall continue, and the faid United Company, and " their fucceffors, fhall have and enjoy fuch part of their yearly fum of one hundred and " fixty thoufand pounds, as they fhall hereafter be entitled to, and all the benefits of trade, " franchifes, privileges, profits, and advantages whatever, granted to the company by former " ftatutes and charters.—Provided, that, at any time, upon three years notice after Lady- " day 1733, and repayment of the faid three million two hundred thoufand pounds, and of " the faid yearly fund of one hundred and fixty thoufand pounds, then the faid duties and " fund fhall abfolutely ceafe and determine."

We muft here remark, that although the title of this ftatute may feem to apply a perpetuity in their exclufive trade, even although their fund fhould be redeemed, (as they themfelves alleged in the year 1730, when petitioned againft to the Parliament, as will be feen) yet the

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1712 body or enacting clauses of this act does not clearly imply so much: but, on the contrary, declares, "that the company shall be subject, nevertheless, to the restrictions, covenants, "and agreements, of former acts and charters now in force; and also subject to the general "provisoes or conditions of redemption above-named."

But in the very next statute, except one, of this same session of Parliament, the enacting clause in behalf of the South Sea Company is extremely and unexceptionably clear, viz. "An "act for continuing the trade to the South Seas, granted by an act of the last session of Par-"liament; although the capital stock of the said corporation should be redeemed.

Which, after reciting that first act for the establishment of the company, further adds, "And whereas some doubts may arise concerning the power of redemption intended by the "said act and charter, which might tend to discourage the said company in expending of "such large sums of money as are necessary for new settlements, and the settling of a trade "there, for the future benefit of Great Britain: for explanation whereof, be it enacted,— "that at any time, upon one year's notice after Christmas 1716, upon repayment of the "principal sum, (due to the company) then all the impositions and duties shall and may be "disposed of by Parliament, and the yearly fund shall cease and determine. But the said "corporation by the name aforesaid, after such redemption of the said yearly fund, shall con-"tinue for ever, and have perpetual succession; and shall hold and enjoy all forts, factories, "and acquisitions, that they shall erect within the limits prescribed,—and shall have the sole "benefit of trade in and to the South Seas, and such other power of trade in the fishery as by "the said act is directed, and all other benefits, powers, privileges, and advantages, as if "no such redemption were had or made."

In a representation, in this same tenth year of Queen Anne, of the East India Company to the House of Commons, against the laying additional duties on callicoes, muslins, cottons, tea, coffee, and drugs, that company alleged, "that they did annually export to the East "Indies about one hundred and fifty thousand pounds value in woollen goods, and other "English product."

In this same year, the French King granted a patent to the Sieur Anthony Crozat, his Secretary, for fifteen years, of the whole commerce of "all the King's lands in North Ame-"rica, lying between New France on the north, Carolina on the east, and New Mexico on "the west, down to the Gulph of Florida; by the name of Louisiana, since named the pro-"vince of Mississippi." See a quarto treatise, printed at Paris, in the year 1720, entitled, *Recueil des Edits, Declarations, Lettres-Patents, Arrets, et autres Pieces concernant la Compagnie des Indes*, &c. *i. e.* A Collection of Edicts, Declarations, Letters-Patent, Arrets, and other Pieces, relating to the (French) India Company, &c. In the preamble to this famous patent the French King says, "that having, in the year 1683, given orders to the Sieur de "la Salle to make discovery of the said country above described, he succeeded so well that it "was now beyond doubt, that a communication may be practicable between the bay of "Mexico and New France, by certain vast rivers. This obliged us," continues Louis, "immediately on the peace of Ryswick to send thither a colony and garrison, which has "maintained the possession we took, in the said year 1683, of lands, coasts and islands situ-"ated in the (Golfe) Bay of Mexico, between Carolina on the east, and old and new "Mexico on the west. But, war breaking out again in Europe, we have not been able till "now to render that colony so advantageous as we hoped for." The bounds now granted to Crozat were, "from the mouth of the river Mississippi, in the bay of Mexico, to the lake

 Illinois

A. D. 1712 Illinois northward; and from New Mexico on the west, to the lands of the English of Carolina eastward; with all rivers, ports, creeks, isles, &c. by the name of Louisiana. "Which "province, however, shall depend on the general government of New France, and be deemed a part thereof. The said Sieur Crozat to enjoy the sole trade of all exportations to and "importations from this province for fifteen years; as also all mines, minerals, &c." paying a fifth of these to the King, "and an immunity during that term from custom outward and "homeward, &c."

This is the whole of the French King's title to the possession of the vast country, which, by virtue of his plenary power, he was pleased to call his own. Under the year 1698, we have related his first attempting a settlement there; but as it was only at the mouth of the river Mississippi, it properly and solely belonged to Spain to oppose it, as being within the limits of Florida: from whence France, on any rupture with Spain, may greatly annoy the Spanish dominions in both old and new Mexico, &c. But when, in the above grant to Crozat, Louis clearly proclaimed his plan of joining Louisiana to New France, and thereby hemming in the English continent colonies between the Mississippi river and the sea eastward; what name shall we give to our English counsellors at such a time, who supinely (if not treacherously) suffered such a grant to pass unopposed, when (as related in the preceding century) both the charters of our King Charles the Second, to the Lords Proprietors of Carolina, granted to them all the lands directly west to the South Seas, which consequently included the country on both sides the river Mississippi: in our introduction, we have done justice to Dr. D'Avenant's judicious and prophetical warning, given in the very year 1698, when France first began a settlement at the mouth of the Mississippi; and as he was a person of great abilities, and at this time wholly devoted to the then ministry, there is no doubt to be made of their being perfectly acquainted with his prediction; of which therefore we can now only lament the consequences.

We may, under this year observe, that Mr. Erasmus Philips's State of the Nation, in respect to her Commerce, Debts, and Money, second edition, p. 25, makes "the balance "of England's trade, one year with another, to have been in our favour, on an average or "medium, two million eight hundred and eighty-one thousand three hundred and fifty-seven "pounds from 1702 to 1712. So that, says he, allowing a great abatement for false entries, "here is room enough for the greatest sceptic to admit of a large balance, over and above the "necessary expences of the war."

Previous to and before we enter upon the formal conclusion of the commercial part of the treaty of Utrecht, we shall briefly exhibit the substance of the new treaty, concluded on the twenty-ninth of January 1713, of mutual guarantee for the Protestant succession to the crown of Great Britain, and for the barrier of the States General of the United Netherlands. The stipulation, in case either should be attacked, was, on the part of Great Britain, ten thousand foot to the assistance of the States, and by the States six thousand foot to the assistance of Great Britain; also twenty ships of war by either party. And in case of sudden and imminent danger, each party shall be obliged, (being required by the other) to augment their succours, and to declare war against the aggressor; and even to join their forces by land and sea to those of the party attacked. This treaty repealed one of the same kind or title, made in the year 1709.

We have the best authority for our observing, that the copper manufacture of England was, by this time, brought to the greatest degree of perfection; it being expresly so declared in a

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1712 statute of the twelfth of Queen Anne; for making perpetual the act made in the thirteenth and fourteenth years of the reign of King Charles the Second, entitled, An Act for the better Relief of the Poor of this Kingdom, &c. By which first-named act an expired clause of an act of the ninth and tenth of King William, enacting, "that any of his Majesty's subjects "may export from England all such copper bars as hath or shall be imported from foreign "parts; and, upon exportation, shall draw back all duties, or vacate the securities, saving "the half of the old subsidy, as is usual in other commodities;" was now revived, in the "words following, viz.

"Which clause being expired, and for as much as the copper manufacture of this king-"dom is brought to such perfection that there is more made than can be expended here, and "in the plantations; be it therefore enacted, &c.—Provided nevertheless, that no drawback "be allowed on the exportation of any copper, but such as shall be imported from the East "Indies and the coast of Barbary only."

1713 We are now come to a remarkable epocha of commercial history: for, on the eleventh of April, new stile, in the year 1713, Queen Anne's plenipotentiaries at Utrecht signed her treaty of peace, and also, at the same time, a treaty of navigation and commerce with France; and ratified the same in four weeks after. Much has been written and published, with too much reason, against the conditions of this peace, which that Queen's new ministers, for their own safety, were determined to conclude.

But as commercial matters alone, and such points as are nearly connected therewith, are our proper province, we shall content ourselves with briefly remarking, on what is properly the treaty of peace:

First, That although the French King yielded to the Queen of Great Britain, to be possessed by her in full right for ever, the Bay and Streights of Hudson, and all parts thereof, and within the same, then possessed by France; yet the leaving the boundaries between Hudson's Bay and the north parts of Canada, belonging to France, to be determined by commissaries within a year, was, in effect, the same thing as giving up the point altogether. It being well known to all Europe, that France never permits her commissaries to determine matters referred to such, unless it can be done with great advantage to her. Those boundaries therefore have never yet been settled, although both British and French subjects are by that article expresly debarred from passing over the same, or thereby to go to each other by sea or land. Those commissaries were likewise to settle the boundaries between the other British and French colonies on that continent; which likewise was never done: neither can ever such limits be effectually settled with a nation whose glory is chicanery and perfidy, any other way but sword in hand.

Commissaries were also to settle, according to the rule of justice, the satisfaction to be given to the English Hudson's Bay Company for the damage done to their settlements, ships, persons, and goods, by the hostile incursions and depredations of the French, in time of peace. And this too was never effectually done.

Secondly, St. Christopher's Isle was the easier yielded to the Queen, as the French had before been expelled thence. But,

Thirdly, Although all Nova Scotia and Acadie, with its ancient boundaries, were yielded to Queen Anne for ever; as also the city of Port Royal, (now called Annapolis Royal) and the subjects of France were thereby excluded from all kind of fishing in the seas, bays, &c. on the coasts of Nova Scotia; yet those ancient boundaries were never yet justly ascertained

 by

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1713 by France; and the ambiguous term ancient boundaries was purposely contrived by France, for her future designs; and, instead of the true limits of Nova Scotia, they still pretended, that only the Isthmus called Acadie was thereby intended to be yielded up, and not what we called Nova Scotia; which is properly bounded by the ocean, and the bay and river of St. Lawrence quite up to Canada; which river we contended was the ancient boundary between Nova Scotia and New France or Canada. But,

Fourthly, The island of Cape Breton, which was always deemed a part of Nova Scotia, and which is better situated for the fishery than any other part of it, and for the French to interrupt our fishery and the communication between Newfoundland and our continent colonies, was basely yielded up to France; as also all the other isles both in the mouth of the bay and of the river of St. Lawrence, whereby the French were permitted to fortify as they should judge proper.

Fifthly, Although the island called Newfoundland, with the adjacent lesser isles, and the town and fortress of Placentia, and whatever else the French possessed there, were yielded up to Britain: yet, nevertheless, the French were permitted to erect stages made of boards, and huts, necessary and usual for drying of their fish during their fishing season. The French therefore had liberty to catch fish, and to dry them on land at Newfoundland, at that part of the said island stretching from Cape Bonavista to the northern point of the island, and from thence running down by the west side as far as Point Riche. Thus, having all the advantages of Newfoundland; (which island it is well known can never be made a profitable colony or plantation) without the expence of holding forts and garrisons, wisely left to Great Britain alone.

Sixthly, The French of Canada were to give no hinderance nor molestation to the five nations or cantons of Iroquois Indians subject to the dominions of Great Britain, nor to the other natives of America who are friends to the same. Yet it is notorious what violence the Canadians and French have since committed against those Indian nations subjects of the crown of Great Britain, and what arts, at other times, they have practised to draw them off from their allegiance.

By the ninth article France agrees to the entire demolition of all the fortifications, and of the port of Dunkirk, and all its sluices, moles, &c. within five months; and they shall never be restored or rebuilt on any pretence whatever.

The articles of the treaty of Navigation and Commerce between Great Britain and France are forty-one in number; most of which being in the customary form, we shall pass over: but we could not omit our animadversions on the eighth and ninth articles, as they were so extraordinary in themselves, and as they occasioned so great a stir and uneasiness at that time, as to have brought the whole treaty of commerce to miscarry then and ever since.

" Article VIII. That all the subjects of the Queen of Great Britain and of the most " Christian King, in all countries and places subject to their power on each side, as to all " duties, impositions, or customs whatsoever, concerning persons, goods, merchandize, ships, " freights, seamen, navigation and commerce, shall use and enjoy the same privileges, liber- " ties and immunities, at least, and have the like favour in all things, as well in the courts " of justice, as in all such things as relate either to commerce, or to any other right whatso- " ever, which any foreign nation, the most favoured, has, uses, and enjoys, or may hereafter " have, use, and enjoy.

A. D. 1713 "Article IX. That within the space of two months after a law shall be made in Great "Britain, whereby it shall be sufficiently provided, that not more customs or duties be paid "for goods and merchandize brought from France into Great Britain than what are payable "for goods and merchandize, of the like nature, imported into Great Britain from any other "country in Europe; and that all laws made in Great Britain, since the year 1664, for pro-"hibiting the importation of any goods and merchandize coming from France, which were "not prohibited before that time, be repealed: the general tariff made in France, on the "eighteenth of September in the said year 1664, shall take place there again, and the duties "payable in France by the subjects of Great Britain for goods imported and exported, shall "be paid according to the tenor of the tariff above-mentioned, and shall not exceed the rule "therein settled, in the provinces whereof mention is there made; and in the other provinces "the duty shall not be payable otherwise than according to the rule at that time prescribed: "and all prohibitions, tariffs, edicts, declarations, or decrees, made in France since the said "tariff of the year 1664, and contrary thereunto, in respect to the goods and merchandize of "Great Britain, shall be repealed.

"But whereas it is urged on the part of France, that certain merchandizes, that is to say, "manufactures of wool, sugar, salted fish, and the product of whales, be excepted out of the "rule of the above-mentioned tariff, and that likewise other heads of matters belonging to "this treaty remain, which, having been proposed on the part of Great Britain, have not yet "been mutually adjusted; a specification of all which is contained in a separate instrument, "subscribed by the ambassadors extraordinary and plenipotentiaries on both sides; it is here-"by provided and agreed, that within two months from the exchange of the ratifications of "this treaty, commissaries on both sides shall meet at London, to consider of and remove the "difficulties concerning the merchandizes to be excepted out of the tariff of the year 1664; "and concerning the other heads which, as is above said, are not yet wholly adjusted. And, "at the same time, the said commissaries shall likewise endeavour (which seems to be very "much for the interest of both nations) to have the methods of commerce, on one part and "of the other, more thoroughly examined, and to find out and establish just and beneficial "means on both sides, for removing the difficulties in this matter, and for regulating the "duties mutually. But it is always understood and provided, that all and singular the arti-"cles of this treaty do, in the mean while, remain in their full force; and especially that "nothing be deemed, under any pretence whatsoever, to hinder the benefit of the general "tariff of the year 1664, from being granted to the subjects of her Royal Majesty of Great "Britain, and the said British subjects, from having and enjoying the same, without any "delay or tergiversation, within the space of two months after a law is made in Great Bri-"tain as abovesaid, in as ample manner and form as the subjects of any nation the most "favoured might have and enjoy the benefit of the aforesaid tariff; any thing to be done or "discussed by the said commissaries to the contrary in any-wise notwithstanding."

When the said two articles came to be known by the merchants of Great Britain, they were received with the utmost surprize and indignation; and the clamour was loud and universal: so that it occasioned a famous weekly paper to be published, (the joint work of a number of eminent merchants) with the title of the British Merchant, or Commerce preserved, (since collected and published in three octavo volumes) in defence of our commerce with Portugal, and against confirming the said eighth and ninth articles by law. There were also several separate tracts published on the same side. On the other hand, those in power found tools to justify

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1713 justify their rash and wild conduct; and particularly a once famous party writer, (Daniel Defoe) who published a weekly reply to the said paper named the British Merchant, and named it Mercator, or Commerce retrieved. But the first-named paper, having truth and facts on its side, clearly evinced to the world, that the complying with those two articles would effectually ruin the commerce we carried on to Portugal, the very best branch of all our European commerce. That the said eighth article did, in general terms, put France on an equal footing with Portugal, or any other of our best allies, in point of commerce: but that the ninth article did more directly strike at the very root of our Portugal trade; as, by introducing the tariff of 1664, the wines and brandies of France would be poured in upon us, in lieu of those of Portugal; although the latter country took off great quantities of our woollen, iron, linen, &c. manufactures, and thereby sent us a large yearly balance of money in our favour, over and above all the wines, oils, and fruits, which we took from them.

On the other hand, by agreeing to these two pernicious articles, and to the tariff of 1664, France would probably gain annually from Great Britain considerably more than one million sterling. Not only from the vast consumption of their alluring wines and brandies, but of numberless other articles in the manufactures of silk, lace, linen, needlework, and paper, beside fruits, &c. Which the able authors of the British Merchant made out thus, viz.

	£.	s.	d.
Our imports from France, upon agreeing to those two articles, would annually amount to - - - - - -	1,712,559	7	0
And our exports thither would not exceed - -	270,181	14	11
Annual balance against, or loss to Great Britain - -	1,442,377	12	1

Whilst, on the other hand, the French had so effectually contrived the exclusion of our woollen, iron, &c. manufactures, and almost every other British production, that our ships would have had very little to do in the French ports but to lade home their commodities.

This is, in brief, the sum of this mercantile controversy, which when brought into Parliament, was so apparent that our trade to France had ever been a ruinous one, and that if, in consequence of accepting the said eighth and ninth articles, the British Parliament should consent to reduce the high duties and take off the prohibitions so prudently laid on French commodities, it would effectually ruin the very best branches of our commerce, and would thereby deprive many hundred thousand manufacturers of their subsistence, which was also supported by petitions from many parts of the kingdom: that, although a great majority of that House of Commons was in other respects closely attached to the ministry, the bill for agreeing to the purport of the said two articles was rejected by a majority of nine voices, after the most eminent merchants had been heard at the bar of that house, to the great joy of the whole trading part of the nation, and of all other impartial people.

Bad as our ministry managed at this time in respect of commerce, we ought to do them the justice to acknowledge their circumspection in regard to the two articles of our then treaty with King Philip of Spain; viz. part of article VIII.

"Neither the Catholic King, nor any of his heirs and successors, shall sell, yield, pawn, "transfer, or by any means or under any name, alienate from them and the crown of Spain, "to the French, or to any other nation whatsoever, any lands, dominions, or territories "belonging to Spain in America. On the contrary, that the Spanish dominions there may "be preserved whole and entire, the Queen of Great Britain engages to endeavour to give

"assistance

1713 " assistance to the Spaniards, that the ancient limits of their dominions in the West Indies " be restored and settled as they stood in the reign of the Catholic King Charles II."

Article X. " That all and singular the subjects of each kingdom," *i. e.* of Great Britain and Spain, " shall, in all countries and places, on both sides, have and enjoy, at least, the " same privileges, liberties, and immunities, as to all duties, impositions, or customs what- " soever relating to persons, goods, and merchandize, ships, freight, seamen, navigation, " and commerce; and shall have the like favour in all things as the subjects of France or of " any other foreign nation the most favoured, have, possess, or enjoy."

By the said tenth article Spain yielded for ever to the British crown the full and entire propriety of the town, port, and castle of Gibraltar. " But without any territorial jurisdiction, " or any open communication by land with the country round about; whereby abuses and " frauds may be avoided by importing any kind of goods. Yet as the communication by sea " with the coast of Spain may not at all times be safe and open, and thereby it may happen " that the garrison and other inhabitants may be brought to great straits; and as it is the in- " tention of the Catholic King, that only fraudulent importations of goods should be hinder- " ed by an inland communication; it was therefore now provided, that in such cases it may " be lawful to purchase, for ready money, in the neighbouring territories of Spain, provi- " sions, &c. for the use of the garrison, so as no merchandize be imported by Gibraltar into " Spain; otherwise it shall be confiscated."

We may here however observe, that if Gibraltar had possessed a small territory annexed to it on the land side, the Spaniards could not have since erected the fort on the Isthmus, so near the town as to prove some obstruction to ships from anchoring in time of war further up the Bay.

The eleventh article with Spain yields to the British crown the propriety of the isle of Minorca, with the port and forts of Port Mahon, for ever.

But with respect to both Gibraltar and Minorca it was expresly stipulated, " that in case " it shall seem meet hereafter to the crown of Great Britain to grant, sell, or alienate the pro- " perty of either, the preference of having the same shall always be given to the crown of " Spain before any others."

The twelfth article grants " to her Britannic Majesty, and to the company of her subjects " appointed for that purpose," *i. e.* the South Sea Company, " (as well the subjects of Spain " as all others being excluded) the contract for introducing of negroes into several parts of " the dominions of his Catholic Majesty in America, commonly called El Pacto del Assiento " de Negros, at the rate of four thousand eight hundred negroes yearly, for the space of " thirty years successively, beginning from the first of May 1713, on the same conditions on " which the French company had formerly enjoyed it."

Here we originally intended to have inserted the South Sea Company's Assiento contract at large: but as that contract, as well as all the company's other commerce whatever, is long since laid aside, we shall spare our readers the trouble of enlarging on a subject not likely to be ever hereafter renewed.

It is said, that the British ministers at first demanded a free trade for Great Britain to Spanish America: but that was a mere illusion; since it would have inflamed the jealousy of all the rest of Europe. Yet surely, considering the service they had done to King Philip, they might have obtained a more favourable Assiento; since it was confessed, that all former Assientists had actually been losers, although on as good terms as the present Assiento, excepting only the annual ship, which King Philip allowed to the South Sea Company, for the

said

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1713 said term of thirty years, of five hundred tons burden, (Spanish measure) with which the said company was to trade with Spanish America; but of which the Catholic King reserved one-fourth of the gain, beside five per cent. on the other three-fourths of the gain. Thus did our ministers, in this respect at least, suffer us and the South Sea Company to be outwitted by the Spanish ministers.

It was universally known, that the Portuguese Company first, and next the French one, were undone by their Assiento Contracts for supplying the Spanish West Indies with negroes: and this *douceur* of an annual trading ship granted to our company was too much clogged with the above difficulties to prove of any certain advantage, more especially considering how much the Court of Madrid had it in their power to suspend the licence for any such annual ship, &c. as they often practised, and to seize on the company's effects in America at pleasure.

Part of the fifteenth article. " And whereas it is insisted on the part of Spain, that certain " rights of fishing at the island of Newfoundland do belong to the Guipuscoans, or other " subjects of the Catholic King; her Britannic Majesty consents and agrees, that all such " privileges as the Guipuscoans and other people of Spain are able to make claim to by right, " shall be allowed and preserved to them." This point has never yet been clearly ascertained, nor probably never will be.

In the mean time, the Earl of Oxford, Lord High Treasurer of Great Britain, and Governor of the South Sea Company, did, in a general court of that company, on the second of June, 1713, acquaint that court, that her Majesty had presented the company with the before-mentioned Assiento Contract, and had also procured for them two licences from the King of Spain for two ships of six hundred tons each, to carry merchandize the first year to the northern ports of the Spanish West Indies, beside the annual ship of five hundred tons. Whereupon the company (flushed with such pompous appearances) issued two hundred thousand pounds more in bonds, for vigorously carrying on the said trade. And her Majesty lent two of her own ships, to be the two first licensed ships, for carrying over the company's goods, factors, and servants. Nevertheless, the Court of Directors were not a little surprized to find, that the Queen had reserved to herself, or to her assigns, another quarter part of the said Assiento, beside her grant of seven and a half per cent. to Don Manuel Manasses Gilligan, the Spanish agent at her court, out of the clear profits of the annual ship: yet she afterwards assigned her quarter part of the Assiento to the company, on condition that the company should (beside the above grant to Gilligan) assign twenty-one one-fourth per cent. of the clear profits of the annual ship to persons whom she would afterwards name, who were then said to be Lord Bolingbroke, Lady Masham, and Arthur Moore, Esquire. Such were, at that time, the wild and ill-grounded expectations from this new trade. Yet, on better advice, the Queen gave up entirely to the company her said quarter part of the supposed profits, to the no small mortification of these and other courtiers, as was then commonly reported, and generally believed.

On the thirtieth of April 1713, the House of Commons, after reading the several petitions of the separate traders to the coast of Guinea, within the limits of the Royal African Company, once more resolved, " That the trade to Africa ought to be free and open to all the " Queen's subjects, under such proper regulations as should subject that trade to duties for " maintaining its forts and settlements." Yet a bill for this purpose was soon after dropped in the House of Peers.

In

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1713 In this same year 1713, the Czar of Muscovy, Peter the Great, in completion of his plan for a new emporium at St. Petersburg, first formed, as we have related, ten years before; removed the bulk of the commerce of Archangel thither, and therewith transplanted thirty thousand people from his ancient capital city of Moscow, obliging also more of his Bojars or Nobles to erect palaces therein, as he also did one for himself; now also making St. Petersburg his most usual residence, upon political considerations.

The immense importance of the silk manufactures of England, at this time, eminently appeared from a petition to Parliament by the Weaver's Company of London, in behalf of those manufactures. They therein set forth, "That by the encouragement of the crown, and of "divers acts of Parliament, the silk manufacture is come to be above twenty times as great as "it was in the year 1664: and that all sorts of as good black and coloured silks, gold and "silver stuffs and ribbons, are now made here as in France. That black silk for hoods and "scarfs, not made here above twenty-five years ago, hath amounted annually to above three "hundred thousand pounds, for several years past, which before were imported from France. "Which increase of the silk manufacture hath caused an increase of our exportation of woollen goods to Turkey, Italy, &c."

This petition was purposely levelled against the before-recited eighth and ninth articles of our minister's commercial treaty with France, the ratification of which articles by Parliament would, instead of our said silk manufacture, have introduced an inundation of French silks, ribbons, embroideries, &c. so that our Spitalfields and Canterbury looms would have stood still, and our most profitable trade in woollen goods, &c. with Portugal, would have been utterly lost.

During England's two last wars with France, the manufacturers of England did irreparable damage to the French, by robbing them of, and even out-doing them in, many of their very best manufactures, with which they had before supplied almost all the rest of Europe. Necessity indeed first prompted our people thereto, in which they were much assisted by the French Refugees. Of which subject we have treated more at large under the years 1685 and 1692.

By the treaty of Utrecht, between France and Portugal, the former yields up all pretensions to the lands of Cape Nord, situated between the river of Amazons and that of Japoc or Vincent Pinson. And the French King hereby declares, "That both sides of the river Amazons, as well south as north, do belong in all propriety to Portugal. And Louis hereby "desists from any claim to navigation on the said river Amazons, and from all right to any "other domain of his Portuguese Majesty, as well in America as in any other part of the "world. Neither shall the French of Cayenne pass the river of Vincent Pinson for traffic, "nor shall buy slaves in the territories of Cape Nord. Nor, on the other hand, shall any "Portuguese go to trade at Cayenne." Of all which the Queen of Great Britain is hereby constituted guarantee. As this short treaty shews, that France, at that time, made pretensions to some part of that continent, so it may hereafter be useful to illustrate some commercial point or concern, in that part of the world.

By the treaty between France and the King of Prussia at Utrecht, Louis recognizes the King of Prussia's title and dignity as a King, and acknowledges him sovereign Lord of the Principality of Neufchatel and Valengin, to which Louis grants the same commercial privileges as are enjoyed by the rest of the Helvetic nation; and, in his grandson's name, he confirms to him the upper quarter of Guelderland; which cession, however, at first alarmed the Dutch

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1713 Dutch not a little, on account of their trade on the Meuſe, and their communication with Maeſtrecht, Liege, Huy, and Namur; but there was no remedy.

On the other hand, the King of Pruſſia thereby renounced all right to the Principality of Orange.

By the tenth article of Louis's treaty with the Duke of Savoy, it was ſtipulated, "That "the ordinary commerce of Italy, between France and that Duke, be managed by the way "of Suza, Savoy, and Pont de beau Voiſin and by Villa-Franca; each paying the duties "and cuſtoms on both ſides, and the French ſhips ſhall pay the ancient duty, called the Duty "of Villa Franca."

In the French King's treaty with the States General of the United Netherlands, at Utrecht, he conſents and promiſes, by the thirty-ſecond article, "That he will not claim nor accept "of any other advantage, either for himſelf or his ſubjects, in commerce and navigation, "whether in Spain or in the Spaniſh Indies, beſide that which he enjoyed during the reign "of the late King Charles the Second, or, that ſhall be likewiſe granted to every other trad-"ing nation."

By their proper treaty of commerce, navigation and marine affairs of France, (conſiſting of forty-four articles, beſide a ſeparate one) which was to laſt for twenty-five years; "the ninth "article grants equal liberty to the Dutch as to the ſubjects of France, to carry merchandize "from the Levant to Marſeilles, as well by their own ſhips as in French ſhips, without being "ſubject to the twenty per cent. unleſs in caſes where the French themſelves are ſubject to it.

"By the tenth, the Dutch may freely import ſalted herrings into France, without being "liable to re-package.

"By the nineteenth, contraband goods are deſcribed to be all ſorts of fire arms and military "utenſils; alſo ſaltpetre, horſes, ſaddles, holſters, belts, &c.

"By the twentieth, wheat and other corn, pulſe, oil, wine, and ſalt, were not to be deem-"ed contraband goods, nor were any other things, in general, which tended to the nouriſh-"ment of life: but ſhall remain free, as other merchandize, and may be tranſported even to "enemies, excepting to towns actually beſieged or blocked up.

"By the twenty-ninth, privateers ſhall give fifteen thouſand livres Tournois, ſecurity, for "their not committing diſorders, &c."

The reſt of the forty-four articles relate to a multitude of points uſual in all other treaties of commerce, concerning mutual liberty of commerce, reception in their ports, captures, contraband goods, tolls, damages, ſearching of ſhips for contraband goods, arreſts, impoſts, paſſports, goods belonging to either party found in enemies ſhips, ſeizures, &c. and therefore needleſs to be particularized. But the ſeparate article ſtipulates, "That the impoſition of "fifty ſols per ton laid in France upon the ſhips of foreigners ſhall entirely ceaſe for the "future, with reſpect to all Dutch ſhips arriving in France, either laden or in ballaſt; ex-"cepting only in one particular caſe alone, viz. when Dutch ſhips ſhall lade merchandize in "one port of France and tranſport them to another port of France to unlade them."

In July 1713, there was a temporary or proviſional contract ſigned at Utrecht, between Great Britain and the States General, touching the commerce of the Spaniſh Netherlands, now unneceſſary to be ſpecified.

To conclude all that relates to the once famous grand alliance againſt France, the Britiſh miniſtry, by their ſeparate peace, having left and abandoned the Emperor and Empire to ſhift for themſelves, it was eaſy to gueſs they would not long hold out againſt the power of France and Spain. The Emperor therefore, for himſelf, in March 1714, (N. S.) concluded, at

 Raſtat,

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1713 Raſtat, a peace with France (the French King being empowered all along to treat for his grandſon) on as good terms as could well have been expected in his then ſituation, being obliged to leave Landau and Straſburg in the poſſeſſion of France, and to conſent that Arras, Doua, and Liſle, ſhould alſo remain to France, and to reſtore the Electors of Cologne and Bavaria to every thing they before enjoyed. And, in September following, what was ſtiled a ſolemn treaty of peace was concluded at Baden, between the Emperor and Empire and the French King, which confirmed what was ſtipulated by that of Raſtat, relating to the frontier towns in Alſace and the Netherlands, and to the reſtoration of the before-named Electors; as alſo recognizing the electoral dignity to the Houſe of Brunſwic Lunenburg: it confirmed alſo the former intercourſe of commerce between France and the Empire, and the rights, commerce, and privileges of the imperial cities, and Hans-towns; as well as what the Emperor then poſſeſſed in Italy, the neutrality of which country was alſo confirmed: but nothing is remarkable therein, in relation to commercial hiſtory.

Laſtly, The brave Catalans, by Great Britain's ſeparate peace, after a moſt obſtinate ſtruggle for their liberties, againſt the united power of France and Spain, were neceſſitated to ſubmit to the terms of the conquerors; abandoned by Queen Anne's miniſtry, contrary to the moſt ſolemn engagements and repeated aſſurances.

In this ſame year 1713, there was a renewal made, for fifty years, of the former treaties between the States General of the united provinces of the Netherlands, and the Burgomaſters and Common Council of the free and imperial city of Lubeck; for the preſervation of the freedom of commerce: to which defenſive treaty and confederacy, any other of the Hans-towns were hereby permitted to accede. This treaty was occaſioned by the then raging wars between the northern potentates bordering on the Baltic Shores.

By an act of the Britiſh Parliament, of the twelfth year of Queen Anne, cap. xi. To raiſe one million two hundred thouſand pounds for public uſes, by circulating a further ſum in Exchequer-bills, &c. The Bank of England, undertaking the circulation of that ſum in Exchequer-bills, was to have three pounds per cent. per annum for the ſame. And for the better enabling the Bank to perform that circulation, by exchanging the ſame from time to time for ready money on demand, this act allows them eight thouſand pounds yearly, over and above the forty-five thouſand pounds allowed them annually by the ninth of the ſaid Queen, till all the preſent and former Exchequer-bills ſhould be paid off and cancelled.—For which end the Bank might call in money from their proprietors, which might be called additional ſtock.—The Bank likewiſe was to continue a corporation till all ſhould be paid off and cancelled—On twelve months notice, after the firſt of Auguſt 1742, and repayment of the yearly fund and of the original capital of one million ſix hundred thouſand pounds, then the corporation of the Bank was to ceaſe and determine.

In the beginning of the year 1714, Queen Anne's declining ſtate of health, and the great uneaſineſs of the men of property, on the ſuppoſition of her death, (which quickly followed) occaſioned a conſiderable fall in the prices of the public funds, viz. Bank ſtock from one hundred and twenty ſix to one hundred and ſixteen; South Sea ſtock from ninety-four one-half to eighty-five. There was alſo, for ſome days, a great run on the Bank: yet national credit very ſoon returned to its former ſtate, and even gradually advanced higher than before; although, at the death of that Princeſs, the public or national debt amounted to about fifty millions of money.

1714 Upon the joint petition of Mr. Whiſton and Mr. Ditton, and the opinions of our great Sir Iſaac Newton and of Dr. Halley, in the year 1714, an act of the Britiſh Parliament paſſed,

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1714 of the twelfth year of Queen Anne, ſecond ſeſſion, cap. xv. For providing a public Reward for ſuch Perſon or Perſons as ſhall diſcover the Longitude at Sea. The preamble whereof is as follows, viz.

" Whereas it is well known by all that are acquainted with the art of navigation, that no-
" thing is ſo much wanted and deſired at ſea as the diſcovery of the longitude, for the ſafety
" and quickneſs of voyages, the preſervation of ſhips and of the lives of men: and whereas,
" in the judgment of able mathematicians and navigators, ſeveral methods have already been
" diſcovered, true in theory, though very difficult in practice, ſome of which, there is reaſon
" to expect, may be capable of improvement, ſome already diſcovered may be propoſed to
" the public, and others may be invented hereafter. And whereas ſuch diſcovery would be
" of particular advantage to the trade of Great Britain, and very much for the honour of this
" kingdom: but, beſide the great difficulty of the thing itſelf, partly for the want of ſome
" public reward as an encouragement,—and partly for want of money for trials and experi-
" ments neceſſary thereunto, no ſuch inventions or propoſals hitherto made have been
" brought to perfection.—It was therefore now enacted, that the Lord High Admiral, the
" Speaker of the Houſe of Commons, and ſeveral other great officers, by virtue of their
" offices, and many perſons beſide," (all now deceaſed) " be commiſſioners for trying and
" judging of all propoſals, experiments, and improvements, relating to the ſame; and any
" five of them are hereby empowered for that end;—who, being ſatisfied of the probability
" of ſuch diſcovery, ſhall certify the ſame to the commiſſioners of the navy,—who are hereby
" authoriſed to make out a bill for any ſum not exceeding two thouſand pounds, as ſuch
" commiſſioners for the longitude ſhall think neceſſary for making the experiments,—which
" laſt-named commiſſioners ſhall declare how far the ſame is found practicable.—And the ul-
" timate reward for the diſcoverer of the longitude, if he determines it to one degree, or ſixty
" geographical miles, ſhall be ten thouſand pounds, if to two-thirds of a degree, fifteen thou-
" ſand pounds, and if to half a degree, twenty thouſand pounds, &c."

All that is neceſſary to be added on this important ſubject, is, that a very conſiderable ſum of money has been already expended on fruitleſs experiments; and that many are of opinion the longitude never can be found; but who can pronounce with certainty on a ſubject of this nature, ſince many uſeful diſcoveries have, at different times, been made on other points of great importance, when they were leaſt expected.

Another moſt uſeful ſtatute was made in the ſame ſeſſion of Parliament, cap. xvi. To reduce the Rate of Intereſt, without any Prejudice to Parliamentary Securities, and has the following preamble, viz.

" Whereas the reducing of intereſt to ten, and from thence to eight, and thence to ſix in
" the hundred, hath from time to time, by experience, been found very beneficial to the
" advancement of trade and improvement of lands;—it is become abſolutely neceſſary," (for
various reaſons which in this work have been at large, and at different times, exhibited) " to
" reduce the high rate of intereſt of ſix per cent. to a nearer proportion with the intereſt al-
" lowed for money in foreign ſtates.—It was therefore hereby enacted,

" Firſt, That, from Michaelmas 1714, no perſon ſhall, directly nor indirectly, take for
" the loan of monies, goods, or merchandize, above the value of five pounds for the for-
" bearance of one hundred pounds for a year.

" Secondly, And that all bonds, contracts, and aſſurances whatſoever, made after the ſaid
" date for payment of any principal or money to be lent, or covenanted to be performed upon
" or for any uſury," (more eſpecially as the natural intereſt of money, or what a reſponſible

 man

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1714 man might borrow money at, was now proportioned to this reduction) "whereupon or "whereby there shall be reserved or taken above the rate of five pounds in the hundred, as "aforesaid, shall be utterly void.

"Thirdly, That every person who shall, after the time aforesaid, upon any contract, take, "accept, and receive, by way or means of any corrupt bargain, loan, exchange, chevizance, "shift, or interest of any wares, merchandize, or other thing whatever; or, by any deceitful "way or means, or by any covin, engine, or deceitful conveyance for the forbearing or "giving day of payment, for one whole year, of and for their money or other thing, above "the sum of five pounds for one hundred pounds for a year; and so after that rate for a "greater or lesser sum, or for a longer or shorter term; shall forfeit and lose, for every such "offence, the treble value of the monies or other things so lent, bargained, &c.

"Fourthly, That all scriveners, brokers, solicitors, and drivers of bargains for contracts, "who shall, after the said twenty-ninth of September 1714, take or receive above five shil-"lings for the loan of one hundred pounds for a year, or above twelve-pence over and above "the stamp duties, for renewing of the bond or bill for loan, or for any counter-bond or "bill concerning the same, shall forfeit for every such offence twenty pounds with costs of "suit, and suffer imprisonment for half a year: moiety to the crown, moiety to the prosecutor."

In this act we again see, as we have on other occasions observed, that the word usury is still a legal term for what we commonly call the interest of money lent, although that term be now commonly applied to illegal or exorbitant interest only.

By another statute of the same session, cap. xviii. For preserving all such Ships and the Goods thereof, which shall happen to be forced on Shore, or stranded, upon the Coasts of this Kingdom, or any other of her Majesty's Dominions:—"The statute of the third of "King Edward the First, concerning wrecks at sea, is now confirmed, which enacts, That where a man, a dog, or a cat escape quick," *i. e.* alive, "out of the ship, neither that ship nor barge, nor any thing in them shall be adjudged a wreck; but the goods shall be saved for the proprietors, &c.—And also a statute of the fourth of that King,—that if any "lay hands on the wreck, he shall be attached by sufficient pledges, and the price of the wreck "shall be valued and delivered to the next town. And whereas great complaints have been "made by both British and foreign merchants,—that their ships being unfortunately, near "home, run on shore, have been barbarously plundered,—and their cargoes embezzled; and "when any part thereof has been saved, it has been swallowed up by exorbitant demands for "salvage: it was now enacted, that the sheriffs, justices of the peace, and magistrates of "port towns; also constables, tything men, and officers of the customs, shall, upon applica-"tion made to them by the concerned, command the constables to summon as many men as "necessary, for assisting in the preservation of such ship in distress, and the goods thereof;— "and if any Queen's ship or merchant ship be riding at anchor near the wreck, their assist-"ance shall be demanded; or, neglecting such assistance, the commander of such ship shall "forfeit one hundred pounds to the proprietors of the ship in distress.

"Secondly, For the encouragement of such as shall assist,—the collectors of the customs "and the commander of such ship, and all others assisting, shall be paid a reasonable reward for "the same from the proprietors.—And, in default of such reward, the said ship or goods, so "saved, shall remain in the custody of such officer of the customs until all charges be paid, "and such reasonable gratification given, or security for it, of which three neighbouring jus-"tices shall adjust the quantum to be paid. Goods, not claimed by the right owners in twelve months, shall be sold, and perishable goods immediately; and the value of both shall be

lodged

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1714 " lodged in the Exchequer, till claimed by the right owners. Persons entering a distressed " ship, without proper leave, or obstructing the saving of ship or goods, or, when saved, de- " facing the marks of such goods, shall make double satisfaction, or be sent to an house of " correction for twelve months: and such persons, so entering the ship without leave, may " be legally repelled by force. Goods carried off, without leave, and not returned, the taker " thereof shall forfeit treble the value. The making holes in any ship in such distress, or " stealing the pump thereof, or otherwise contributing to its destruction, shall be felony with- " out benefit of clergy.

" Proviso, for saving the right of the crown, or of patentees, or of Lords of Manors, to " any wreck, or to goods that shall be flotsam, jetsam, or lagan," (*i. e.* floati g, thrown on land, or lying on the shores) " within their respective jurisdictions."

By an act of the fourth of King George, this statute was made perpetual: " And for effec- " tually preventing the wilful casting away, burning, or otherwise destroying of ships by the " owners, masters, or mariners:—it was hereby enacted, that their doing so to the prejudice " of underwriters of policies of insurance, or of merchants lading goods in such ships, shall " suffer death."

Yet, we are truly sorry to remark, that notwithstanding this good law, there have been fre- quently very barbarous infractions of it, more especially on the further south western shores of England, which seem to want a stronger enforcement: although this act directs it to be read four times yearly in all the parish churches and chapels of all sea port towns on the sea coasts of the kingdom.

As we have formerly observed, that the Post Office revenue is, in some sort, a kind of po- litico-commercial pulse, or test of a nation's prosperity or otherwise; we shall here exhibit a state thereof for some years past, as the materials have fallen in our way.

I. The author of the Royal Treasury of England, octavo, 1725, p. 307, says, " That, " when an act of Parliament passed, in the year 1660, for establishing a General Post Office " in England, it then brought in a revenue," (I presume he meant, net) " of twenty-one " thousand pounds per annum."

II. The rates of postage continuing the same till the end of 1710, we have observed, under the year 1711, that on a medium of three years, viz. in the years 1708-9-10, the net income was fifty-six thousand six hundred and sixty-four pounds, according to Dr. D'Avenant's New Dia- logues; but, by the printed report of the Commissioners of the Equivalent, in the year 1718, to the House of Commons, that medium then amounted to sixty-two thousand pounds for England, and two thousand pounds for Scotland.

III. From Lady-day, or the beginning of 1711, an addition of one-third to the postage of home letters was made, by an act of Parliament, and, on a medium of four years, viz. 1711, 1712-13-14, to Lady-day 1715, the net revenue was:

	£. 90,223
Now deducting the revenue at the restoration - - -	21,000
	69,223
Also one-third for the increase in 1711, by the above additional postage, -	23,000
And the net increase of this revenue, since the restoration, is -	£. 46,000

Only deducting about two thousand pounds for Scotland. Which last-named deduction is probably more than compensated by the additional expence arisen from the great increase of franked letters at this period.

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1714 About this time, the Emperor Charles the Sixth first granted commissions to ships fitted out at Ostend, for trading to the East Indies, by which great quantities of India goods were brought and supplied to Europe, which very much interfered with the commerce of the English and Dutch Companies; most of which interloping ships, as well as their commanders and secret projectors, were, nevertheless, procured from England and Holland. Some ships under that Prince's commission, were fitted out from Lisbon and Leghorn. All which moved the English and Dutch companies to make loud complaints at the court of Vienna, though as yet, and for some years after, without redress.

On the ninth of June 1714, the English House of Commons addressed Queen Anne, that her quarter part of the Assiento contract with Spain might be applied to the discharge of the national debts; but on the eighteenth, she answered, that she had given the same up to the South Sea Company. And the same year, the Queen granted two other ships of war to accompany and escort the other two ships which she had before granted, for carrying out the company's goods, factors, &c. The ports to which that Company had leave to trade, and at which to settle factories, were Panama in the South Sea; and Porto-bello, Carthagena, and Vera Cruz, on the North Sea; Buenos-Ayres on the Rio de la Plata, and the Port of Havanna in the isle of Cuba; beside their inland sub-factories in New Spain, &c. and their agents at Jamaica, as well as at Cadiz and Madrid in Old Spain. So here was a most pompous and specious outset. And the Queen's grant of her quarter part of the Assiento not having been formerly conveyed to the company before her death, King George I. confirmed that grant, on his accession to the crown, as also of the four ships above-named, which sailed to America in the beginning of the year 1715.

Nevertheless, in the debates in Parliament, it already too plainly appeared, that, from the explanations made by the Court of Madrid, to their treaty of commerce with Britain, since the signing the treaty of Utrecht, it was not very probable that we should be able to carry on an advantageous trade with the Spanish West Indies, as matters then stood.

The accession of the present royal family of Hanover to the British throne, by the death of Queen Anne, gave great satisfaction to the better part of the nation of all ranks, and especially to the monied and trading interests, who thereupon assumed new life and vigour: and although disaffection soon after broke out into open rebellion, yet that being also soon and easily quelled, our general commerce and manufactures have continued, very sensibly, to increase ever since that happy period, Our mercantile shipping, not only in London, but in most of our other sea-ports, have also visibly increased, as in Bristol, Liverpool, Glasgow, Dublin, Corke, Waterford, and in many other ports of Britain and Ireland; and for a never failing confirmation of the great increase of the commerce of those cities and towns, let the vast increase of the suburbs of London and Dublin more eminently speak, since that period; as well as of Bristol and Liverpool, and of several inland manufacturing towns to a great degree also; such as Manchester, Birmingham, &c. And the like may be said with respect to the American colonies. Where liberty and property are inviolably preserved, and the established form of religion firmly secured, whilst, at the same time, such as dissent from it, of all persuasions of Protestants, are made easy and safe under the protection of the laws; what can possibly hinder such a country and people from growing rich and powerful? On the other hand, whilst, for want of heirs of the Queen's body, the spurious pretensions of one bred up in the persecuting bigotry of a very different religion from ours, and yet favoured by too many at home, as well as encouraged by certain foreign potentates, hung over our heads, it is not to be wondered

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1714 ed at that in the latter part of that Queen's reign, a general diffidence and uneafinefs prevailed amongft all ranks, until the legal fettlement of a Proteftant fucceffion, with a numerous royal family, took place. And where fuch a general uneafinefs long continues, commerce will gradually languifh, many perfons will at length leave fuch a country, to feek for fweet content and liberty elfewhere; and as the people will thereby decreafe, fo will likewife their manufactures and fhipping. But, thanks to kind Providence, the reverfe is now, and long has been, our happy condition.

1715 King Louis the Fourteenth, of France, dying in this year 1715, we fhall only briefly obferve, that, as during his long reign, he had done much hurt to his country's manufactures, by driving out of France fo many induftrious manufacturers, artifans, and merchants, whom neceffity prompted to exercife their arts and fkill in the countries whither they had retired for fhelter; fo, on the other hand, in his reign, foreign commerce and plantations were confiderably improved by the French: he had alfo greatly improved and increafed his marine, fo as to have fometimes proved a match for the joint fleets of both the other fo-called maritime powers of Europe. And although in this work we have nothing particularly to do with his unjuft invafions of his peaceable neighbours, any farther than it affected the general ftate of commerce either in his own kingdom or elfewhere; yet we cannot avoid remarking, that his perfecuting and expelling his Proteftant fubjects had nearly depopulated a confiderable part of his country, and alfo greatly leffened the former vaft confumption of French manufactures in foreign countries, as we have elfewhere remarked: his foreign wars had alfo confumed great numbers of his people, fo that it is doubted by many, whether France would not upon the whole have been happier, more populous, and richer, had Louis folely cultivated the arts of peace and manufactures, and thereby not only would have increafed his own people, but would likewife have drawn thither great numbers of foreigners; inftead of his having, by his unjuft conquefts, extended his dominions on almoft every fide; and would, by fuch a policy, have alfo increafed his maritime ftrength and his American plantations.

But be this as it may, we fhall only further obferve, from Voltaire's fecond volume of his Age of Louis the Fourteenth, " That during his whole reign, Louis had expended eighteen " thoufand millions French money, which, on an average, comes to three hundred and " thirty millions yearly of prefent money :"—or about fourteen millions fterling per annum, one year with another.

In Mr. Wood's Survey of Trade, p. 51, he gives us the balance of commerce in our favour, for the years 1713 and 1714: on a medium of the faid two years, viz. our exports, on a medium, exceeded our imports two millions one hundred and three thoufand one hundred and forty-eight pounds yearly.

About this time, pig and bar iron began firft to be made in the Britifh American province of Virginia, and of a very good ftaple or kind: which new production is faid to be fince much improved.

By an act of the Britifh Parliament of the firft year of King George the Firft; For enlarging the Fund of the Bank of England, relating to Exchequer Bills, &c. it was enacted, " That, after the redemption of the Bank's original fund,—and likewife of the " fund created by this act, for further circulating of Exchequer Bills; then, and not " till then, the Corporation of the Bank fhould ceafe and determine." This was commonly called the Aggregate Fund, though not applied to conftitute a part of the gene-

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1715 ral Sinking Fund for leſſening the national debts, till the act of the third of King George, cap. vii.

By an act of Parliament of this firſt year of King George the Firſt, For enlarging the capital Stock and yearly Fund of the South Sea Company, and for ſupplying thereby eight hundred twenty-two thouſand and thirty-two pounds four ſhillings and eight pence to public uſes; and for raiſing one hundred and ſixty-nine thouſand pounds, &c.

	£.	s.	d.
" The capital ſtock of the South Sea Company, which till now was	9,177,967	15	4
" Had an addition made to it from the Navy Office Treaſurer, of -	822,032	4	8
" Whereby that Company's capital was from and after Midſummer 1715, made up - - - - -	10,000,000	0	0

Which additional ſtock conſiſted of the following particulars, viz.

£.	s.	d.	
275,339	0	8	For half a year's intereſt on their ſaid capital of nine million one hundred and ſeventy-ſeven thouſand nine hundred and ſixty-ſeven pounds fifteen ſhillings and four pence, from the half year, ended at Chriſtmas 1714, to Midſummer 1715.
300,000	0	0	More thereof in full for the half year ended at Chriſtmas 1715, on the increaſed capital.
8,000	0	0	For their allowance for charges of management for one year, ended on the twenty-fifth of December 1715.
583,339	0	8	
238,693	4	0	Laſtly, there was an addition of ſtock made transferable for the uſe of the public, as the Treaſury ſhould direct.
822,032	4	8	as above.

By theſe additions there was alſo an addition of forty-nine thouſand three hundred and twenty-one pounds eighteen ſhillings and eight-pence to the company's yearly fund, which thereby was made up ſix hundred thouſand pounds per annum, at ſix per cent.

Yet, notwithſtanding the proviſion hereby made for the year 1715, the company might ſtill proceed to receive the duties ariſing by ſalt, candles, clerks, apprentices, &c. by virtue of the act of the ninth of Queen Anne, whereby they were enabled to make their dividends for this year 1715, in money: and, that we may end this point here, though ſomewhat out of its place, the company's general court in May 1716, made the two half years dividends for the ſaid year 1716, in the ſtock aforeſaid; the dividends for both half years being made at Midſummer 1716, by adding ſix per cent. in ſtock to each proprietor's account, for the two half years dividends, (ninth and tenth) to Chriſtmas 1716.

In this ſame year, the South Sea Company's firſt annual ſhip was launched, giving her the name of the Royal Prince, in honour of the then Prince of Wales, ſince King George the Second, governor of that company, who, on that occaſion, was magnificently entertained on

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1715 board of her, with all his court: which ship's first voyage was in 1717, and her second voyage, in the year 1723.

A printed paper now appeared, giving the vast net amount of the customs of England for the fifteen immediately preceding years; which was as follows, leaving out the odd shillings and pence, viz.

Anno 1700, — — —	£. 1,379,460
—— 1701, — — —	1,637,809
—— 1702, — — —	1,285,605
—— 1703, — — —	1,206,349
—— 1704, — — —	1,401,390
—— 1705, — — —	1,139,277
—— 1706, — — —	1,311,856
—— 1707, — — —	1,192,081
—— 1708, — — —	1,351,536
—— 1709, — — — —	1,353,483 ☞
—— 1710, — — —	1,208,292
—— 1711, — — — —	1,253,598
—— 1712, — — —	1,315,423
—— 1713, — — — —	1,541,170
—— 1714, — — —	1,714,139
Total in fifteen years	20,291,468
The customs, on a medium, for one year, —	1,352,764

Here we may naturally observe, that three of the years of peace, viz. in the years 1701, 1713, and 1714, considerably exceeded any of the other eleven years; and yet a prosperous year of war, 1704, somewhat exceeded the year 1700, a year of peace, but an unsettled and threatening one. And, lastly, that the above net amount of the year 1709, exactly corresponds with that given into the House of Commons in the said year, which so far confirms the authenticity of this account.

Upon a petition of the agent for the planters and merchants of Carolina, and of the other miserable inhabitants of that colony, oppressed by the lords proprietors, and their defence against the Indians neglected, &c. the House of Commons addressed the King to send them relief: And, a bill was brought into the British House of Commons, for the better regulation of the charter and proprietary governments in America, and of his Majesty's plantations there: the principal scope of which was, to reduce all these proprietary charter governments into regal ones.

Ever since the proprietary colonies began to be very considerable, that is, since the death of King Charles the Second, and more especially since the revolution, in the year 1688, both King William and Queen Anne's councils and ministries foresaw the great consequence it would be of to the crown and kingdom, to buy off the lords proprietors of colonies, before they should grow too powerful; and frequent treaties were held with them by the ministers of the crown for that end, particularly with the truly great Mr. William Penn, for the purchase of his fine province of Pennsylvania. His demand was twenty thousand pounds; and Queen Anne, in council, referred that demand to the Lords Commissioners of Trade and Planta-

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1715 tions, whose report was referred by the Queen to the Lords Commissioners of the Treasury; soon after which, an agreement was made with Mr. Penn for twelve thousand pounds for that province: but he being soon after seized with an apoplexy, which disabled him to execute the same, a stop was put to that bargain, until, by the Queen's order, a bill in Parliament should be prepared for that end. Whilst that bill was depending, Mr. Joshua Gee, and others, who were mortgagees under Mr. Penn, petitioned the House of Commons for relief; wherein they represented, that Mr. Penn having purchased of the Indians their title to that country, he had, by his industry, and at great charge, improved the country, and established considerable colonies therein, by which he had very much impaired his estate in Europe; and that, in the year 1708, to clear a debt contracted for the settling and improving the said colonies, he had borrowed of the said mortgagees six thousand six hundred pounds, to whom he mortgaged the said province and all his powers of government.

Secondly, The Lord Baltimore, as we have seen under the year 1661, (though at this time only first represented to the legislature, by the young lord's guardians) in his petition represented, "the great expence his great grandfather had been at in settling his province of Mary-"land; and that he," (this minor) "and his three brothers and two sisters, lately become "Protestants," (the family having always been Papists till now) "have no way of providing "for themselves but out of those several branches of the civil government of the said province, "which, by a bill entitled, For the better Regulation of the Charter and Proprietary Go-"vernments in America, and for the Encouragement of the Trade of this Kingdom and of "his Majesty's Plantations, are intended to be taken away; the amount whereof is at least "three thousand pounds per annum; and, as the Indians in this province are very inconsi-"derable, the white people therein being much more numerous and stronger than they; they "therefore humbly hoped, that Maryland might be excepted out of this bill."

Thirdly, A petition was likewise presented by the agent for his Majesty's provinces of Massachuset's Bay and Connecticut.

With relation to Massachuset's Bay, it was represented, "That it had its charter from "King James the First, in the eighteenth year of his reign, afterwards confirmed by King "Charles the First, in the fourth year of his reign: by virtue whereof, the Governor and "Company of the Massachuset's Bay had power to appoint their own officers, civil and mili-"tary, with other privileges therein mentioned: that in the reign of King James the Second "their charter was vacated, at the same time that many corporations in England were dis-"franchised: that after the revolution, King William restored the charter, only reserving to "himself the appointment of a Governor, Lieutenant Governor, Secretary, Judge of the "Admiralty, and the Attorney General; and that this is the charter which the province now "enjoys. Hereupon it is humbly observed, that the charter of this province being on the "same footing with the corporations in England, it seems equally hard to divest them of it "as it would be to disfranchise the corporations at home. That this province has given a "valuable consideration to the crown for their charter, viz. The subduing and planting a "wilderness, at a vast expence, and with the loss of many lives; whereby they have added a "large territory to the crown, and thereby also greatly increased the trade and commerce of "Britain. That this province is not within the reasons suggested in the bill: for they have "not exercised arbitrary power;" as is alleged therein to have been done by the Lords-Proprietors of Carolina, "neither indeed can they; for the principal officers before-mentioned, "being appointed by the crown, are such a check on the government, that it is entirely out

"of

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1715 " of their power to oppress the subject. Moreover, they have not neglected the defence of " the inhabitants: on the contrary, they have well defended both themselves and their neigh- " bours, in a long French and Indian war; and their ordinary charge for guards, garrisons, " guardships, &c. has been thirty-five thousand pounds one year with another. And though " hereby the province has contracted a debt of one hundred and fifty thousand pounds, yet " they do not complain; nor are they burdensome to the crown, but are paying it off yearly " by degrees. Moreover, if this charter should be taken away, no compensation can be made " for it: whereas, in the case of proprietary governments, an equivalent may be given to the " proprietors; as it seems is intended: but here it cannot be; because the privileges are not " vested in particular persons, but in the body of the people. Thus it is like to happen, that " the proprietors of Carolina, &c. on whose account alone this bill is brought in, may come " off well enough, whilst the charter governments in New England, which have done nothing " amiss, shall be the only sufferers. It is therefore humbly prayed, that this province may " still enjoy its privileges, by being excepted out of the bill, entitled, &c." as before.

" IV. With respect to the Connecticut charter, which is intended to be taken away by " this bill. It had, like other charter governments, a grant from the crown, whereby they " were empowered to appoint all their own officers, civil and military, for the administration " and execution of justice: that the first planters entirely confiding in the royal charter for " the security of their liberties therein granted, did, at a vast expence and great peril, subdue " and plant a wilderness: whereby they have increased the dominions of the crown, as well " as the commerce of Britain: that they have, in all times since, defended themselves against " the enemy; and have impartially administered justice to the subject: and when public mea- " sures have been concerted, for the common good of the colonies, they have chearfully join- " ed in the expence. Moreover, they have never to this day cost the crown so much as one " shilling.—Have strictly observed the acts of trade and navigation.—They have been always " dutiful to the crown: and, if their charter be taken away, no equivalent can be given for " it," for the reasons assigned in the preceding Massachuset's Bay petition. " It is therefore " humbly hoped, that the colony of Connecticut may be excepted out of the bill."

Petitions were also presented in behalf of the Duke of Beaufort and the Lord Craven, both minors, to be heard by council against the passing of the bill; they being considerable proprietors in Carolina and the Bahama Islands. Also from the agent for the colony of Rhode Island and Providence Plantation in New England. The foregoing petitions, which contain much of the history of the first planting of these colonies, were referred to the committee to whom the bill was committed.

Yet, notwithstanding all the bustle occasioned by the said bill, it was in the end dropped; although it was most certainly and obviously of the last importance for the public, that the Proprietary colonies should have been bought off and vested in the crown.

By the treaty of peace concluded at Utrecht, in this year 1715, (and which therefore is published in the first volume of the history of the treaty of Utrecht) between King John V. of Portugal and King Philip V. of Spain; the latter yields up to the former, by the sixth article, the territory and colony of the Sacrament, situated on the northern bank of the river of Plata, in America; but so as that no other nation of Europe shall be permitted to settle in or trade thither.—Yet, in the next (*i. e.* seventh) article, it is stipulated, that the King of Spain may nevertheless offer an equivalent for the said colony, if agreeable to his Portuguese Majesty;

 provided

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1716 rities fell fifty per cent. others eighty per cent. and fome fell ninety per cent. Which fad ftate of things produced innumerable bankruptcies.

There was coined in the Tower of London, from Auguft 1715 to Auguft 1716, one million five hundred and forty-two thoufand one hundred and fifty-five pounds in gold; and but feven thoufand pounds in filver:—Boyer's Political State of Great Britain, for Auguft 1716. And it was reckoned that near two-thirds of that gold was melted down from French Louis d'Ors.

No redrefs being obtained for the offenders invading the privileges of the Englifh Eaft India Company, a proclamation was iffued by the Prince of Wales, Guardian of the Realm in the King his Father's abfence, for ftrictly prohibiting his Majefty's fubjects from trading to the Eaft Indies, under foreign commiffions, contrary to the privileges of the Englifh Eaft India Company; and alfo from ferving on board fuch foreign fhips.

Some controverfies having, in this year 1716, arifen concerning the trade of Great Britain into the countries and ports within the Baltic Sea, we find in a periodical paper, (formerly well known by the name of Boyer's Political State of Great Britain, confifting in all of fixty octavo volumes, comprehending thirty years fpace, viz. from the firft of January 1710 to the laft of December 1740,) for the month of November 1721, the total value at prime coft, of all merchandize, either imported or exported, between Great Britain on one fide, and Denmark, comprehending alfo Norway, Sweden, the Eaft Country, *i. e.* Pruffia and Livonia, and Ruffia, during the faid year 1716, viz.

	£.	£.
Imported in the year 1716, into Great Britain,		
1. From Denmark and Norway, (rejecting the odd fhillings and pence) in mafts, timber, pitch and tar, hemp, &c. - - -	75,896	
2. From the Eaft Country, chiefly in mafts and hemp, linen, &c. -	103,635	
3. From Sweden, chiefly in iron, pitch and tar, mafts, &c. -	136,959	
4. From Ruffia, chiefly in hemp, pitch, tar, mafts, &c. -	197,270	
Total imported	———	511,760
Exported from Great Britain, viz.		
1. To Denmark and Norway - - -	60,317	
2. To the Eaft Country - - - -	65,293	
3. To Sweden - - - - -	24,101	
4. To Ruffia - - - - -	113,154	
Total exported	———	262,865
Total balance, or lofs to Great Britain	£.	248,895

Excepting fome few commodities from Ruffia and Pruffia, as rhubarb, and fometimes raw filk from Perfia, Cavear, &c. every other article from thofe northern parts are fince this time difcovered to be had from the American plantations; as, iron from New York and Pennfylvania, timber of all kinds from moft of our continent colonies, pitch and tar from the fame, as alfo hemp and flax: raw filk, increafing apace from Carolina and Georgia. Our legiflature indeed granted various bounties on feveral of thofe commodities, already with good effect. We will not, however, anfwer for the precife exactnefs of the above account; but fear the general

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1716 neral balance is increafed againft us fince that time, more efpecially with refpect to Ruffia.—Compare this account with that under the year 1701.

Mr. Bubb, the Britifh Minifter at Madrid, in behalf of the South Sea Company, now concluded a treaty by way of an explanation or emendation of the Affiento contract for negroes: but as that trade has been long fince laid afide, we fhall not detain our readers with what is elfewhere in print, and may likewife probably be of very little information or ufe to any at this time, or perhaps at any other period of time. Only we may juft remark, that the annual fhip allowed, was ftipulated to be of fix hundred and fifty tons, Spanifh meafure, from the year 1717 to the year 1727.

1717 The Dutch Eaft India Company's privileges were now prolonged for forty years to come.

An unnatural rebellion of free and Proteftant fubjects, in behalf of a Popifh pretender, and againft a moft humane and indulgent Proteftant King on the throne of Great Britain, being happily fuppreffed, the Miniftry and Parliament determined to take advantage of a time of tranquillity for reducing the intereft on the public debts, in order for their future leffening the principal thereof gradually. For which good purpofe the reduction of the legal intereft of money from fix to five per cent. in the year 1714, prepared the way; as did alfo what is ufually called the natural intereft of money, or that rate of intereft at which money might now be borrowed on good private fecurity.

In order that this good and great end might be attained with fuccefs and fecurity, the government treated with the Bank and South Sea Company, to whom a great part of the national debts were due, and brought them to agree not only for the reduction of the intereft on their own refpective capitals from fix to five per cent. but for the Bank's advancing or lending to the public, when wanted, two million five hundred thoufand pounds, and the South Sea Company the fum of two million at five per cent. intereft; to be in readinefs for paying off fuch of the proprietors of the orders of four lotteries of the reign of Queen Anne, and of other redeemable annuities, as fhould demand their principal money to be paid to them, inftead of accepting of five per cent. in lieu of their prefent intereft of fix per cent. This falutary fcheme was effected in confequence of three feveral acts of Parliament of the third year of King George cap. vii. viii. and ix.

By the Firft, entitled, An Act for redeeming the Duties and Revenues which were fettled to pay off the Principal and Intereft on the Orders made forth on four Lottery Acts, &c. commonly called the General Fund, "the faid two companies were impowered to borrow money "on their common feal, or to make calls on their proprietors, for enabling them to advance to "the public the two fums above fpecified: the faid reduction of intereft to commence from and "after Michaelmas 1727: for which intereft a new annual fund was hereby eftablifhed, and has "ever fince been called the General Fund, amounting to feven hundred and twenty-four thou-"fand eight hundred and forty-nine pounds fix fhillings and ten pence one-fifth." Hereby meafures were fo well-concerted by the government, that all the proprietors of thofe redeemable debts acquiefced in the faid reduction of their intereft from fix to five per cent. without borrowing any part of the faid two million five hundred thoufand pounds of the Bank, or of the two million of the South Sea Company, ftipulated as before-mentioned.

For, Secondly, By an act, cap. viii. For redeeming feveral Funds of the Bank purfuant to former Provifoes of Redemption, &c. "The Bank's willingnefs to accept of five per cent. in-"tereft for all the debts due to that corporation was declared, in lieu of their then allowances, "and to advance the two million five hundred thoufand pounds, if called for: and the Bank

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1717 "was hereby to deliver up two million of Exchequer bills; for which they were to have an "annuity of one hundred thoufand pounds, redeemable on one year's notice after Chriftmas "1717." This is called the Aggregate Fund, firft eftablifhed by an act of the firft year of King George, cap. xii. though not particularly applied to leffening the national debts till now. Hereby alfo the Bank was to have three per cent. per annum, and one penny per cent. per diem, inftead of two pence formerly allowed, for circulating of the fum of two million five hundred and fixty-one thoufand and twenty-five pounds, being the remaining Exchequer bills, till fully cancelled, from Chriftmas 1717: fo that the whole capital of the Bank was hereby increafed to five million three hundred and feventy-five thoufand and twenty-feven pounds feventeen fhillings and ten pence, viz.

	£.	s.	d.
The original capital ftock was - - -	1,600,000	0	0
The Exchequer bills, cancelled by the feventh of Queen Anne -	1,775,027	17	10
And now by Exchequer bills cancelled - - -	2,000,000	0	0
Total Bank capital £.	5,375,027	17	10

But their faid original capital of one million fix hundred thoufand pounds was to continue at fix per cent. intereft to the firft of Auguft 1742.

And, Thirdly, The very next act of this fame feffion was, cap. ix. For redeeming the yearly Fund of the South Sea Company at fix per Cent and fettling on that Company a yearly Fund at five per Cent. redeemable by Parliament, &c. as before mentioned, viz.

	£.	s.	d.
The South Sea Company's prefent capital being - -	10,000,000	0	0

And their prefent annual fund being fix hundred thoufand pounds, their fund was now reduced from fix to five per cent. *i. e.* from fix hundred thoufand to five hundred thoufand pounds, from and after Midfummer 1718, befide their yearly allowance of eight thoufand pounds for charges of management.—The Company was alfo hereby impowered to borrow money on their common feal, either for the purpofes of this act, or for carrying on their trade, or other neceffary occafions, at fuch intereft as they fhould think fit, and for any time not lefs than fix months and although their fund may hereafter be redeemed, viz. on one year's notice after Midfummer 1723, yet their trade and corporate capacity was hereby to continue for ever. This was, in the ftile of the Exchequer, called the South Sea Fund.

By all which favings, viz. by one per cent. on the funds before-named, and by one penny per cent. per day, faved for the future on Exchequer bills hereafter to be circulated, a good beginning or foundation was laid for the famous Sinking Fund, amounting then to three hundred and twenty-three thoufand four hundred and thirty-four pounds feven fhillings and feven pence halfpenny per annum. Moreover, for the greater convenience of the proprietors of the before-mentioned Lottery Orders, and other debts at the Exchequer, hereby ranged under this new general fund, they were brought from the Exchequer to the Bank, and erected into a transferable ftock at five per cent. intereft. This yearly faving or furplus, called the Sinking Fund, was hereby to be folely applicable to the difcharge of the principal and intereft of fuch national debts as were contracted before Chriftmas 1716. As by the firft named act, cap. vii. the moiety of the original bankers debt, (which had been by the twelfth of King William, cap.

A. D. 1717 cap. xii. fixed at six per cent. and which moiety was thereby properly made the whole debt on the public to be redeemed) amounting to six hundred and sixty four thousand two hundred and sixty-three pounds was included in the redemption from six to five per cent, and as almost all other public debts comprehended in that act, called the Aggregate Fund, were either subscribed into the South Sea Company in the year 1720, or have been since paid off or annihilated, we have the more concisely described them, as they now exist no more.

N. B. By a clause in the said act, cap. vii. the duty of six pence on every piece of forty ells of British-made linen exported, which had been laid on by the Tonnage and Poundage Act, was taken off; "the said manufacture," says this act, "employing many thousands of the "poor of this kingdom."

Thus out of the before-named three funds, called the Aggregate, the General, and the South Sea Fund, was formed the Sinking Fund; being purely the surplusses or savings out of those funds, by the several reductions now and afterward to be made in the rates of interest and allowances: and as these have at different times been lessened, and annual or other payments have been made to the creditors of the public out of the Sinking Fund, it has proportionably increased.

And as it seems at least probable, that the original hint of this sinking fund may have been copied from those of two foreign states, viz. Holland and the Papacy, in the years 1655, and 1685, we were the rather inclined to take particular cognizance of them, as they both proved successful.

We shall only further remark on this first famous reduction of the interest on the national funds, and the establishment of a fund for the further lessening the public debts, that instead of lowering the prices of the several stocks at market, it was seen, that by Michaelmas in the said year 1717, they had considerably risen in price; and particularly, that South Sea stock which, at Lady-day 1717, was but at one hundred three-fourth per cent. got up to one hundred and eleven one-half per cent. by Michaelmas.

The Duke Regent of France, having, in the year 1716, erected the first public properly circulating bank that had ever been in France, by the persuasion of Mr. John Law, a native of Scotland, and a goldsmith's son at Edinburgh; by which he proposed mighty matters for advancement of the commerce and manufactures of France: "Which kingdom," says the preamble to the Patent for that bank, very justly, "by its situation and fertility, wanted no-"thing but a solid credit to establish therein the most flourishing commerce.—Wherefore, the "Sieur Law has now authority granted to him and his company for twenty years, to issue "notes, as a public bank, with absolute protection for the cash of foreigners, even although "their country should be at war with France.—The crowns or money of this bank to be al-"ways of the same weight and fineness.—Their notes to be always payable on demand.—And "the Regent of France, the Duke of Orleans, was hereby declared its protector.—This bank "might keep cash for merchants, and discount bills of exchange, &c."

This bank was principally projected by Mr. Law for the purpose of paying off the public debts of France, being above fifteen hundred millions of livres, or about seventy millions sterling, by drawing its creditors into the newly-projected Missisippi or India Company; for which purpose, the Sieur Crozat was brought to resign his patent of the country of the Missisippi, by the name of Louisiana, granted to him in 1712.—In this year 1717, therefore, the Regent erected a company of commerce by the name of the Company of the West, commonly called the Missisippi Company, with the sole trade thither, and also the trade of beaver to Canada for

twenty-

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1717 twenty-five years: and great pains were taken to spread all over France pompous accounts of the country of Missisippi, from north latitude twenty-nine, up to the country of Canada or New France, in north latitude forty.

This new company for Louisiana could not but give ground of jealousy to Great Britain, it lying behind our American plantations, and its capital town, New Orleans, being already increased to six hundred houses.

Mr. Law was appointed Chief Director of this company, into which all the national debts were intended to be brought, being now at sixty to seventy per cent. discount; this being an exact copy of the Earl of Oxford's scheme for the South Sea Company in the year 1711.—In December, in this same year 1717, the capital stock of this Missisippi Company was fixed at one hundred millions of livres, with four per cent. interest. In the mean time, as the Bank was to co-operate with this company for the said grand scheme, the King directed all the receivers of his revenues to make their receipts and payments in bank bills only. As the said public debts were taken in at par, it might have been expected that the creditors would have readily come in: yet it was sometime before they could get one hundred millions subscribed, where we will leave them for the present.

In this same year 1717, there appearing to be a considerable scarcity of silver coin in England, by reason our gold coins were rated too high in price; and the great Sir Isaac Newton being thereupon consulted, by the Lords Commissioners of the Treasury: he advised the reduction of guineas from twenty-one shillings and six pence to twenty-one shillings, which was accordingly done, by the approbation of the House of Commons, who addressed the King for this purpose; at which rate they have remained ever since: whereby, in some measure, the silver coins, which had before been exported in exchange for gold, were kept at home. Guineas were originally coined only for twenty shillings in silver, and so were the old broad pieces of King Charles the First, though at this time passing for one pound three shillings and six pence. But now the case is going to be the reverse, occasioned by the vast exportations of silver bullion to the East Indies, whereby silver is become scarcer, and gold is become more plenty by the profit of bringing gold from India and China: For silver ever has, and probably ever will hold the prerogative of being the fixed standard; gold being always valued by silver, but not silver by gold. It was asserted, that our East India Company had exported, in one year, near three million ounces of silver to India, which was more than was imported from all parts.

In the same year there was a treaty of alliance concluded between Great Britain, France, and the States General of the United Netherlands, for the guarantee of the treaty of Utrecht, and particularly for maintaining the order of succession to the crowns of England and France, thereby established; and for the demolition of the ports of Dunkirk and Mardyke.—Vol. iv. p. 39, &c. of the Collection of Treaties, 1732.

Article IV. "For the entire destruction of the port of Dunkirk:—The great passage of "the new sluice of Mardyke, which is forty-four feet wide, shall be demolished from top to "bottom,—and the little sluice shall be reduced to sixteen feet in breadth.—The jettees and "fascine work to be also demolished:—it being hereby the intention of the contracting parties, that no more jettees or fascine work shall ever be again made on the shores of this "coast, for any port or haven at Dunkirk or at Mardyke, or any other place whatever within "two leagues from either of two places.—The demolition of the jettees or piers on both sides "of the old canal or port of Dunkirk shall be entirely finished and made level with the ground,

 "all

A. D. 1717 " all the way from the lowest ebb as far as within the town of Dunkirk; and if there shall re-
" main any pieces of Fort Blanc, Chateau Verd, and Bonne Esperance, they shall be totally
" laid flat to the ground."

Never surely were articles worded in a stronger manner for the entire execution of this part of the treaty of Utrecht; and the three contracting parties also mutually agree to guarantee this as well as the other articles relating to the above-named order of succession, by respectively contributing, viz. the two crowns each eight thousand foot and four thousand horse; and the States four thousand foot and two thousand horse, in case either of the allies should be attacked by any other potentate, or to be disturbed by intestine rebellions, or on any other pretext whatever.—And in case the said succours be not sufficient, the allies should agree in concert to furnish a greater, and, if the case shall require it, they shall declare war against the aggressors, and assist one another with all their forces. (Articles VI. and VII.) But, by the separate articles, the guarantee and succours before-named are both limited to the territories of the respective allies in Europe only.

In this same year 1717, the South Sea Company's first annual ship, the Royal Prince, was laden and sailed for La Vera Cruz.

About this time, and for some time backward, there were great complaints against the Swedes, for the unjust captures of many British merchant ships and their cargoes, though in time of peace: and for sheltering British rebels, contrary to treaties, and particularly to that of the year 1700, with this very King of Sweden. Yet matters could not be settled during the life of Sweden's romantic King, Charles the Twelfth; but he being killed the following year at the siege of Frederickshall in Norway, an accommodation was soon after concluded with his sister and successor, Ulrica Eleonora.

The Right of British Subjects to cut Logwood in the Bay of Campeachy, fully stated.

The matter of the right of British subjects to cut logwood, or, as the Spaniards term it, Campeachy Wood, came again this year on the carpet.—See the year 1662. The then Lords Commissioners of Trade and Plantations having, in a representation to his Britannic Majesty, asserted and proved beyond contradiction, the right of his subjects to cut logwood in the Bay of Campeachy. This was occasioned by the Spanish Ambassador Extraordinary, the Marquis de Monteleoné, having delivered a memorial against the British subjects settlement in the isle of Triste, and on and near the Laguna di Terminos in the province of Jucatan, and Bay of Campeachy, where they continued to cut logwood:—declaring, " That, if, in the space of " eight months, they do not leave the said place, they shall be considered and treated as pi- " rates."—That board represents to his Majesty, " That since a trade of so great importance " to our navigation, and the American colonies, is in danger of being lost, we have " again carefully perused the books and papers in our Office, and have received from " the merchants and others the fullest information we can hope to obtain, which hath " taken up much time. And we now humbly crave leave to lay before your Majes- " ty the past and present state of this trade, with the arguments that formerly engaged " your Majesty's royal predecessors to protect and support the same: to which we shall " add, some observations, and the reasons that induce us to conclude, your Majesty's " subjects have now as full and ample a right to this trade as to any other liberty or privilege

" that

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1717 "that has been allowed by the crown of Spain, and enjoyed by them, by virtue of any treaty "whatsoever.

"First, Logwood is one of the productions of the province of Jucatan, where the Spaniards are possessed of San Francisco de Campechy, its capital town and port, which has "been thrice taken by the English, and of two other inland towns, Merida and Valladolid, "having but few inhabitants: but the rest of the province, before the" English "logwood-"cutters were settled, was in a manner wholly desolate and uninhabited. It is however al-"lowed, that the Spaniards had, from time to time, cut wood in several parts near their own "settlements: but, during the hostilities committed in the West Indies before the year 1667, "they deserted that employment, being frequently interrupted by the privateers, both by sea "and land; who, by degrees, becoming acquainted with the coast, and with those parts where "the wood grew, that were most remote from the Spaniards, they at last fell into the trade; "and laid the foundation of their future establishment near Laguna di Terminos, and to Triste "and Beef Islands.—For, notwithstanding the treaty of Madrid, in the year 1667, conclu-"ded by the Earl of Sandwich, was principally intended to adjust our commerce with Spain "in Europe, yet a general, firm, and perfect amity being thereby concluded, it was con-"strued to extend to America as well as to Europe; wherefore many of the British privateers "were then induced to quit their former course, and to settle with the logwood-cutters in "Laguna di Terminos: so that in the year 1669, their numbers were considerably increased, "and great quantities of wood were transported both to Jamaica and New England.

"The American treaty, for restraining depredations in those parts, concluded in the year "1670, encouraged several others of the privateers or seamen to fall in with this employment "of cutting wood, to which it was now generally supposed they had a right by the said "treaty.

"And Sir Thomas Lynch, then governor of Jamaica, transmitted to the lords of the "council his reasons for encouraging this trade, viz.

"I. That the English had done so for divers years.

"II. It was in desolate and uninhabited places.

"III. That it seems a possession granted by the American treaty.

"IV. It might give a right to seclude the Dutch and French, if we should break with "Spain.

"V. The Spaniards had not, to that time, made any complaints of it.

"VI. This employ makes the reducing of the privateers more easy.

"VII. And, that it will employ one hundred sail of ships annually, and bring in more to "his Majesty's customs and the nation's trade than any colony the King hath.

"Although, at first, they found the logwood by the sea-side, they were afterwards forced to "go four or five miles up into the country for their refreshment, where they planted Indian "provisions, and built houses, to keep themselves from the sun and rain.—That in all the "time of their working, they had never seen any Spaniards, or other person, although they "had gone six or seven miles further into the country, to kill deers, &c.—That Sir Thomas "Lynch, governor of Jamaica, in 1672, wrote all this to the Earl of Arlington, Secretary of "State; and that this kind of possession is held in the West Indies to be the strongest that can "be, viz. felling of wood, building of houses, and clearing and planting the ground.—That "the depositions of many English concerned in this logwood trade were, in substance, as "follows, viz.

A. D. 1717. " That our King's ſubjects have been uſed, for ſome years, to hunt, to fiſh, and to cut logwood, in divers bays, iſlands, and parts of the continent, not frequented or poſſeſſed by any " of the ſubjects of his Catholic Majeſty, and without any moleſtation.—Which cutting of " logwood there, had been approved of by the committee of the King's privy council: which " allowance gave freſh vigour to the logwood-cutters; although about that time the Spaniards " began to interrupt them, and to diſpute their right to that liberty which they had ſo long " quietly enjoyed. For it is an undoubted fact, that from the publication of the treaty of " 1667, until about two years after the concluſion of the American treaty, in the year 1670, the " logwood-cutters had never been diſturbed in the leaſt either directly or indirectly. Nor does " it appear, that the Spaniſh governors took any umbrage at, or made any complaint about it; " much leſs did they pretend to an excluſive right, or that it was contrary to the laws of their " commerce. That the Engliſh who were ſettled at the Laguna di Terminos, in reſentment " for the Spaniards having taken two Engliſh ſhips which had logwood on board, ſeized on a " Spaniſh bark at the ſaid Laguna, bound to Tabaſco: yet the governor of St. Franciſco de " Campeachy, in vindication of the firſt hoſtilities of the Spaniards, complained of by Sir " Thomas Lynch, in the year 1672, took not the leaſt notice of thoſe Engliſh ſhips having logwood, nor of our cutting logwood, nor of our being for ſome years ſettled on the " ſaid Laguna; nor did he aſſign any other reaſon for making thoſe repriſals, but our taking " the ſaid Spaniſh bark.—That the Engliſh having been in poſſeſſion of the Laguna di Terminos prior to the American treaty, in the year 1670, and the ſeventh article running as " follows:—It is agreed, that the King of Great Britain ſhall have, hold, and always poſſeſs, " in full ſovereignty and propriety, all the lands, countries, iſlands, colonies, and other places, " be they what they will, lying and ſituate in the Weſt Indies, or in any part of America, " which the ſaid King of Great Britain or his ſubjects now hold and poſſeſs; inſomuch, that " they neither can nor ought hereafter to be conteſted or called in queſtion for them upon " any account, or under any pretence whatſoever.—That by the Queen Regent of Spain's " Cedula, in June 1672, declaring ſuch to be pirates who ſhould make invaſion, or trade without licence in the ports of the Indies, it does not appear that cutting of logwood was then " eſteemed an invaſion.—Yet, by virtue of this Cedula, it was at length carried to that height, " that if our ſhips had but any logwood on board, they were confiſcated without remedy; although the ſaid Cedula was inconſiſtent with the American treaty, and made, *ex poſt facto*, " after the ratification of that ſolemn treaty.—That although in 1680, the Spaniards violently " diſlodged our logwood-cutters from the ſaid iſland of Triſte and Laguna di Terminos; yet, " in the year 1682, our trade to and from thoſe parts was greater than ever.—That, excepting " two or three months after the aforeſaid aſſault in 1680, it is well known to the Spaniards, " that we have been ever ſince poſſeſſed of thoſe parts where we cut logwood.—That a clauſe " in the firſt article of the treaty of commerce, at Utrecht, determines this conteſt relating " to the cutting of logwood, beyond all poſſibility of diſpute for the future, viz. after the confirmation and ratification of the American treaty of 1670, it follows:

" Without any prejudice, however, to any liberty or power which the ſubjects of Great " Britain enjoyed before, either through right, ſufferance, or indulgence.

" If therefore this comprehenſive clauſe (which relates only to the Weſt Indies) confirms, " ſecures, and re-eſtabliſhes thoſe liberties which the ſubjects of Great Britain enjoyed in " America before the treaty in 1670, it neceſſarily follows, that they having then enjoyed the " liberty of cutting logwood without any interruption, (as hath been fully proved) either

" through

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1717 "through right, sufferance, or indulgence, they are again entitled by this (Utrecht) treaty "to the same liberty, in as plain and express words as can be used or imagined. And that "your Majesty may be more fully apprized of the importance of this trade, the same will be "effectually demonstrated by the following account of the quantities of logwood imported "since the war, viz.

"In the year 1713, two thousand one hundred and eighty-nine tons, fifteen hundred "weight. In 1714, four thousand eight hundred and seventy-eight tons, fourteen hundred "weight. In 1715, five thousand eight hundred and sixty-three tons, twelve hundred weight, "and in 1716, two thousand and thirty-two tons, seventeen hundred weight; *i. e. communibus annis*, (or one year with another) three thousand seven hundred and forty-one tons; "which cannot be computed at less than sixty thousand pounds per annum, though the price "at present be reduced from forty pounds to sixteen pounds per ton: whereas before your Majesty's subjects were settled there, it was worth one hundred pounds per ton.

"Nor is this trade less necessary than beneficial to your Majesty's dominions, by reason of "the great encouragement it gives to our seamen and shipping. Upon the whole, therefore, "we are humbly of opinion,

First, "That the subjects of this your Majesty's kingdom, for some years before, as well as "after the American treaty, in the year 1670, did enjoy an uninterrupted liberty of cutting "logwood in those parts of the Bay of Campeachy not inhabited by the Spaniards; either "through right, sufferance, or indulgence.

Secondly, "That the said American treaty did establish a right in the crown of Great "Britain to the Laguna di Terminos, &c. Those places, at the time of the treaty, and for "some years before, being actually in the possession of the British subjects.

Thirdly, "That the royal Cedula, issued out by the court of Spain, was a violation of "that treaty, forasmuch as the carrying on the trade to the Laguna di Terminos was thereby "interpreted an invasion, and the logwood cutters accounted pirates: and that your Majesty's subjects having been, at least, suffered to enjoy the liberty of cutting logwood, as "aforesaid, before the conclusion of the American treaty (although your Majesty should not "insist on your right to the Laguna di Terminos) yet that the same liberty is absolutely granted and confirmed by the treaty of commerce made at Utrecht. And we do further think it "our duty to represent to your Majesty, that although the said Spanish ambassador seems to "declare, in his memorial, that no attempt should be made to dislodge your subjects settled "on the Laguna di Terminos, in a less time than eight months from the date of his said memorial; yet they were dislodged and taken prisoners in the same month the memorial was "delivered, as appears by several affidavits."

All which is humbly submitted by

(Signed) SUFFOLK,
J. CHETWYND,
CHARLES COOKE,
J. MOLESWORTH,
D. PULTENEY,
M. BLADEN.

Whitehall, September 25, 1717.

1718 In March 1718, the South Sea Company's second great annual ship was launched, and named the Royal George, in honour of his Majesty King George the First, the company's governor.

A. D. 1718. But a war with Spain breaking out in this [illegible] 1718, an effectual stop was thereby put to that company's commerce to the Spanish [illegible]ndies, where their effects, factors, and servants were seized and [illegible], to the company's very great damage, who agreeable to their Assiento Contract ought to have had eighteen months time allowed them for the removal of their effects, &c. which the company's agent at Madrid represented, in very strong terms, to the Cardinal Minister, whose answer was, That the company should be indemnified whenever peace should be concluded; yet the same was never effectually performed, and although this war was but of a short duration, the company was nevertheless a considerable sufferer by it, and towards the close of this year, humbly represented to his Britannic Majesty their various grievances, which were in substance, viz.

I. " That whereas in respect to the two Queen's ships, the Bedford and Elizabeth, laden " for the company's account, by virtue of two Cedulas granted by the King of Spain, in the " year 1714, the former to Carthagena, and the Elizabeth to Vera Cruz, yet the Bedford's " cargo was confiscated, on the pretext of over-tonnage, although it afterwards appeared, upon " re-measurement, that its cargo was under the stipulated tonnage. Yet the obtaining a suspension of the sale of that cargo by the Spanish officers, until the company should have " time to appeal to Europe, cost an excessive sum to the said Spanish officers, beside the loss " of their market, &c.

II. " That the cargo of the Elizabeth had an *alcavala*, or duty laid on it at Vera Cruz, to " a very great sum; although the King of Spain had expressly specified that it should pay no " manner of duties, on condition that he," the Catholic King, " should enjoy ten per cent. " out of the profits thereof: which imposition he afterwards confirmed and extended to all " the company's future annual ships, though contrary to the forty-second article of the " Assiento Contract.

III. " The King of Spain's suspending the company's new ship, the Royal George, from " sailing this year, after being richly laden with a cargo of near three hundred thousand " pounds value, which was thereby much damaged, was a very great loss to the company.

IV. " By laying exorbitant duties on the company's ships permitted to lade fruit at the " Canaries, for the Spanish West Indies.

V. " By laying duties on the purchasers of the company's negroes.

VI. " By conniving at, and permitting many negroes to be imported clandestinely by " others, contrary to the said Assiento Contract.

VII. " By obstructing the company's officers from lading homeward, either tobacco or " cocoa, likewise contrary to the said Assiento.

VIII. " By false measuring of the company's negroes, and denying justice therein.

IX. " In delaying justice in law suits against the Spanish officers, for extorting exorbitant " fees for the negroes imported by the company.

X. " By obliging the company's factors at Panama to pay there the duties on slaves confiscated and indulted; contrary to the usuage of former Assientists.

XI. " For compelling the company's factors at Panama and the Havanna, to pay a duty " of six pieces of eight for the burial of each negro.

XII. " In denying the company's factors at Buenos-Ayres the lands stipulated by the " Assiento Contract, to be assigned them for breeding of cattle, provisions, &c. and for their " negroes.

XIII. " The

A. D. 1718 XIII. "The extorting extravagant port charges there, for the company's ſhips, and the "obſtructing their purchaſing of goods there; with other abuſes at that port, and at Panama.

XIV. "The Spaniſh Guarda de Coſta ſhips ſtopping the company's Aſſiento ſhips, and "taking from them ſundry things not contraband."

For theſe and ſome other grievances and defects in the Aſſiento contract, the company prayed his Majeſty to procure redreſs, which he was graciouſly pleaſed to promiſe, when the differences with Spain ſhould be adjuſted.

N. B. By the ſeizure of the company's effects, on the breaking out of this war, they are ſaid to have been loſers above two hundred thouſand pounds, which was never after effectually made good.

In this ſame year, the Dutch colony at Surinam, in Guiana, are ſaid firſt to have begun to plant coffee; which was then ſaid to be much better than either the coffee of Martinico or Jamaica.

It was in or about this year, that Biſhop Huet, in his Memoirs of the Dutch Commerce, thinks that the Hollanders ſent annually to the countries within the Baltic Sea, no fewer than one thouſand, or one thouſand two hundred ſhips, to lade the bulky commodities of thoſe northern countries: with which they afterwards ſupplied many other parts of Europe; ſo vaſt then was, and in a great meaſure ſtill is their trade to Denmark, Sweden, Ruſſia, Pruſſia, Livonia, &c. within that ſea.

The ſelling and buying of chances and parts of chances of tickets, in the ſtate lotteries of Great Britain, being at this time in general practice, a clauſe in an act of Parliament, for continuing certain duties on coals and culm, &c. prohibited ſuch practices: and alſo all undertakings reſembling lotteries, or being on the foot of a ſtate lottery, were ſtrictly prohibited, under the penalty of one hundred pounds, over and above all penalties enjoined by former acts of Parliament, againſt private lotteries.

The Oſtenders ſtill continuing their trade to the Eaſt Indies, under the Emperor's protection and commiſſions, an act of the Britiſh Parliament, of this fifth year of King George, paſſed,—For the better ſecuring the lawful Trade of his Majeſty's Subjects to and from the Eaſt Indies; and for the more effectual preventing all his Majeſty's Subjects from trading thither under foreign Commiſſions. Whereby it was enacted, "That whereas it is of great "importance to the welfare of this kingdom, that the trade to and from the Eaſt Indies be "regulated according to acts of Parliament and the royal charters.—And that, particularly by "an act of the ninth of King William the Third, the ſaid Eaſt Indies ſhould not be viſit-"ed nor frequented by any Britiſh ſubjects other than ſuch as might lawfully trade thither, "under the penalties therein ſet forth.—And that the goods laden from India ſhould, with-"out breaking bulk, be brought to ſome port in Great Britain to be unladen.—Notwith-"ſtanding which reſtrictions, and the proclamation of the year 1716, ſeveral Britiſh ſubjects, "not entitled under the ſaid laws, have preſumed to trade to India, in foreign and other "ſhips, to the diminution of his Majeſty's cuſtoms, and the trade of this kingdom—Where-"fore the contraveners are hereby declared liable to all the penalties of the laws in being.—"And, moreover, the Eaſt India Company is hereby authoriſed to ſeize on the perſons of "all ſuch Britiſh ſubjects as ſhall be found within their limits, and to ſend them priſoners to "England.—And that all or any Britiſh ſubjects, acting under a commiſſion from any foreign "potentate, ſhall forfeit five hundred pounds for every ſuch offence." This act was further

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1718 continued by the fifth of George the Second, cap. xxix. for seven years from the first of May 1732, and to the end of the then next session of Parliament.

A bill in the British House of Peers, For continuing a Duty on the Trade and Navigation of this Kingdom, and for repairing of Dover Harbour, in this year 1718, met with much opposition there. The merchants alleged, that this harbour had, for many years past, been a burthen to the trade and navigation, although its situation was such, that whenever the wind blows hard from the sea, *i. e.* from south-east to south-west, the entrance of the pier is so choaked with small stones, washed in by the wind and sea, that very often, at high water, a hoy of thirty tons cannot get in or out, and the packet boats are liable to the same misfortune. That the charges on our navigation, called Petty Port-charges, were so high, that a ship of two hundred and fifty tons paid each voyage thirty pounds sterling, of which at least six pounds five shillings was for the repair of this pier and harbour.—That the mouth of the pier is but one hundred feet in breadth, and the channel much narrower, occasioned by a lodgment of stones: and at the pier heads the tide runs so strong directly across it, that it is both difficult and dangerous to get in or out, several ships having been lost in attempting the same. That the execution of the act for this duty had already cost upwards of twenty thousand pounds, although it be much the same as before—Neither can it be made of any advantage to any but fishing-boats and small ships or vessels using the said place. Yet the said act was continued, though hitherto to very little purpose.

The pirates in the West Indies, and especially among the Bahama Islands, being at this time a great obstruction and detriment to the British commerce, the King's ships, and the proclamation for their surrendering themselves by a limited time, had the desired effect, and the peaceable navigation of those seas was restored.

In May 1718, new Louis d'Ors and new silver coins were coined in France, which were to pass for considerably more than their intrinsic value, much to the detriment of the commerce of France; and all the old monies, heavier than this new coin, were called in. And to make this foolish and wicked scheme appear somewhat uniform, the prices of gold and silver bullion were hereby to be accommodated to it. Foolish it was, because the monied part of the world were too wise not to take advantage thereof to the detriment of the state; and wicked, as it brought great misery upon many thousands of individuals. And in the same month and year, the King, or rather the Duke Regent, by letters patent, ordained the capital of the Bank to consist of one thousand two hundred shares of one thousand crowns per share. Yet in the same year, the King took this Bank into his own hands, and published, "That he had paid "off all the proprietors of the said one million two hundred thousand pounds capital; which "sum (as a further security for the future just management of this, now to be named, Royal "Bank) he had lodged with the general cash thereof." Yet this supposed sum was not in actual cash, but only in actions of the Mississippi Company belonging to the King. This was a part of Mr. Law's scheme for bringing about an union of the Bank with that company, for the easier execution of his grand project of paying off the public debts by Moon-shine, *i. e.* by getting them subscribed into this company.

It was no difficult matter for intelligent men to foresee the ruin of the Bank, from the moment that it was denominated Royal, and to foretell, what soon after happened, the ruin of vast numbers of opulent and honourable families, not only (though principally) in France, but in other parts of Europe, rashly venturing deep into this project, formed under an absolute government, which, by a dash of its pen, could undo every thing at pleasure. When

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1718 the old coins were thus called into the Mint, it was directed, "That there should be permitted to be therewith brought into the Mint, two fifth parts in state bills, because," says this extraordinary edict, "the disreputation of those state bills has proved an obstruction to commerce and to the circulation of money." The other wise reason for this edict was, "That by thus stamping an higher value on the gold and silver coins of France, gold and silver from other countries would be brought thither in greater abundance." The new-coined and over-valued crowns of six livres were now ordered to be paid and received at that price in the Bank. Yet all this was reversed towards the end of the following year, by arrets, which gradually reduced the said new gold and silver coins to very near their intrinsic value; as the court saw the vast detriment which the enhancing the nominal value of the new coins had done to the crown as well as to commerce. Four millions per annum were allotted for the interest of such public debts (being one hundred millions) as had been already subscribed into the Mississippi Company; and, for a further allurement, that company had the entire farm of tobacco granted to them for nine years. Whereupon, that company began immediately to transport great numbers of artificers, planters, labourers, and soldiers to Louisiana, and a great stir and bustle was artfully made therein, for further alluring of people to become adventurers in the stock of this company, already arrived at the price of one hundred and twenty per cent.

By a statute made in this fifth year of King George the First, cap. xviii. For recovering the Credit of the British Fishery in foreign Parts, and for better securing the Duties on Salt: it was found, that the allowances granted by former laws relating to the duties on salt, upon exportation of fish, much exceeded the duty itself on salt used in curing the said fish. For remedy whereof, it was now enacted, "That the curers of fish for exportation shall, instead of all former allowances, be permitted to use either foreign or British salt, without paying any duty, excepting the custom on importation of the foreign salt: and that salt intended to be used in curing of fish shall be warehoused, and the proprietor to make oath of the quantity, and that it is intended for curing of fish for exportation only.—And, after the fishing season, the remaining salt to be again warehoused, and the proprietor to give an account of the quantity of fish exported, on which the salt was used, and the remaining salt shall be delivered over to other persons, for the same end:—Persons not giving true accounts upon oath, shall forfeit forty pounds," &c.

Then follow the allowances to be made by collectors of the salt-duty to the exporters of fish, viz. on pilchards, cod, ling, and hake, (wet or dry) salmon, white and red herrings, and dried sprats, certain allowances therein specified, either by the barrel or the hundred weight, or else by the number of fish, with their size, &c. which it is not necessary to specify in this place: it not being our intent to particularise every law relating to the regulation of merchandize, but only to take notice of any great or remarkable alteration, like this of the allowances on salted fish exported.

1719 The isle of St. Lucia in the West Indies has, at several times been inhabited by both English and French planters at the same time: in or about this year 1719, the Mareschal D'Etrees sent a colony thither, but our ambassador at Paris remonstrated against it with such spirit and success, that the French court sent orders to evacuate that island for the present.

For the further execution of Mr. Law's wicked scheme of drawing in the numerous proprietors of the national debts of France to be paid with the Mississippi stock and Royal Bank notes, he was, in the beginning of the year 1719, made Director-general of that Bank, in

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1719 the same year, creating, in different months, no fewer than one thousand millions of livres, *i. e* between forty and fifty millions sterling, in new bank notes, less (says the royal arret) not being sufficient for the various operations of his Royal Bank. Although in fact this sum was more than all the banks in Europe did or could circulate.

In the mean time, the more to inveigle mankind, Law persuades the Regent to unite the French East India Company to this new Mississippi or Western Company. The preamble to this edict shews the then very ill state of their East India Company's affairs, viz.

"That notwithstanding the sums of money, ships, &c. bestowed on the East India Company from time to time, and its many privileges and immunities since its first erection, in the year 1664; yet, instead of increasing its commerce, it had totally abandoned its navigation, and was now about to sell its exclusive privileges to some private persons for certain allowances, although they might as well have made their commerce profitable to their proprietors and to the kingdom, as the East India Companies of other nations have done.—That although the original fund was not large enough, yet their directors injudiciously lavished it away, borrowing money afterwards at ten per cent. interest. Nay they even paid five pounds per cent. per month for the interest of the bullion they procured for their eastward cargoes, which swallowed up all the profits of the voyage.—That King Louis the Fourteenth still continued his kindness to that company: but the East Indians complaining that the company did not pay either principal or interest of their just debts, and that they had not sent one ship to Surat in sixteen years time, they being greatly in debt there, from whence cottons and almost all the spices and drugs of India and Arabia are brought, the subjects of France, to their immense loss, are compelled to buy of strangers those and other Indian wares, not only for home consumption, but also for carrying on the trades of Senegal and Guinea, though at treble the prices they would otherwise have cost. Neither is their trade to China better conducted than that to India. For retrieving therefore the commerce and honour of France in India, by paying the company's debts (of many millions) there, the King hereby nullifies the privileges of that company, and unites them to this Western or Mississippi Company, which will thereby be much strengthened.—Thus, having before joined the Senegal Company to the said Western one, this newly-consolidated company will have the four quarters of the world to trade in." And then it subjoins what mighty matters they will effect, thus united, for the advancement of commerce, the breeding of pilots and sailors, and the general increase of navigation, &c. "For these causes we have thought proper to unite those companies, and have granted this now united company the absolute exclusive commerce from the Cape of Good Hope eastward, to all the rest of Africa, and to Persia, India, China, Japan, and the isles, even to the Streights of Magellan and Le Maire: they hereby enjoying all the forts, isles, &c. of the old company, and paying all their debts." How different has the condition of the French East India Company since been from what it was at the time we are considering.

"Moreover," says the King's edict, "beside the hundred millions of public debts, already subscribed into the Western Company's capital, there shall now be a subscription, in ready cash, of twenty-five millions of new actions, each to consist of five hundred and fifty livres. And that this newly united company shall henceforward be called the India Company.

In July 1719, twenty-five millions more of state bills were subscribed into this new India Company's capital, which was by this time run a great way above par; and, by the vast number of adventurers in that stock, the dirty street called Rue Quinquempoix, was daily crouded

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1719 beyond measure. We may here remark, that a great part of the first stock of this company was subscribed by the King and government alone; which, by the mad running up of the stock, was afterwards sold out at one thousand per cent. and upwards, and thereby put near two hundred millions into the King's coffers: the same was practised by Mr. Law on the company's own behalf, thereby enabling them to push their schemes yet further.

In August 1719, for the further promoting of stock-jobbing, the last fifty millions of India stock had every share split into one hundred shares, which brought in the very dregs of the people to be adventurers: whereupon the stock rose to five hundred per cent. which again fell to four hundred and forty-five, on the bare rumour of the Sieur Law's indisposition, and rose again to six hundred and ten per cent. on his recovery.

In the same month, the King's arret grants the company the general farm of all the revenues, and prolongs their exclusive term to the year 1770: in consideration whereof, the company agrees to lend the King no less than twelve hundred millions of livres, or about fifty millions sterling, for paying off all the public debts. For the said general farm the company agreed to pay fifty two millions yearly, being three millions and a half more than the Sieur Lambert paid, from whom the King now took this farm, although he had six years to run in his grant. Out of which fifty-two millions the company was to retain annually thirty-six millions, as the interest of the said twelve hundred millions lent to the King, for which vast sum they were to take subscriptions at three per cent. In the mean time, the bank was ordered to issue out twenty-five millions, in their notes, to the India Company, to be sent to Louisiana, instead of coin, for carrying on an extensive commerce there: a wretched means for that end, in lieu of cash. The company at the same time agreed to pay the King fifty millions, for the sole privilege of the coinage of money, for nine years to come.—By another arret, the public creditors were permitted to take actions, or shares of India stock, in payment of their several debts: and thus the public debts were all paid off.—The people of France easily swallowed the bait, fondly believing all the fine stories which Law and his emissaries artfully gave out; and the stock, in a few weeks more, ran up to twelve hundred per cent. when one hundred and fifty millions were added to their capital, by three several subscriptions, at one thousand per cent. for enabling them to make good their loans to the King: which one hundred and fifty millions were permitted to be split into such smaller parts as they should take out subscriptions for; whereby the market in Rue Quinquempoix was well supplied.

A false appearance of an unusual plenty of money was now observed at Paris, whither crowds of strangers resorted from all, or most parts of Europe, to share in this trade: so that all things rose in price, and lands near Paris were sold at fifty years purchase; and a wise purchase it was to such as sold out their stock at twelve hundred per cent. which they very properly termed realizing their stock. By such means Mr. Law's credit was arrived at the highest pitch; his levee was crouded with persons from most parts of Europe, pressing for subscriptions, which now bringing in so much cash to the company, they were enabled to lend the King three hundred millions more, at three per cent. Many were the arts made use of for keeping up the price of the now unweildy stock; such as, an arret to enable the company to employ part of their capital for the improvement of manufactures, fisheries, &c.—Also for improving their tobacco farm; for supplying the King with all the hemp he should want for his navy, and many other devices too tedious to enumerate.—The King, moreover, engaged, not to erect any other company in France but this; and the company, on their part, engaged not to take in any more new subscriptions; (this was necessary for keeping up the prices of the former

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1719 mer ones) nor to increafe their capital ftock. The payments for the new fubfcriptions were ten in number, each at a month's diftance; but the new fubfcriptions foon made the old ones to fall, for want of money to pay in on thefe laft; the firft payment of which laft new ones was currently fold at two hundred to three hundred per cent. profit, and yet the old ones were equally good as thofe of the laft fubfcription: but the quantity of the capital ftock, being now three hundred millions, made the old fubfcriptions fall in price. The company, therefore, for keeping them up, declared they would pay nine hundred per cent. for them, which immediately raifed them to twelve hundred per cent. and the laft fubfcriptions were about thirteen hundred per cent. Now three hundred millions of that ftock, at the price of twelve hundred per cent amounts to three hundred and fixty thoufand millions of livres, or about or near eighteen thoufand millions fterling: which fum is, perhaps, near one hundred and eighty times as much as all Europe contained of current cafh, fuppofing it to amount to one hundred millions fterling: for, as to what is fhut up in banks, and particularly in the bank of Amfterdam, faid by fome to amount to thirty-fix millions, though others doubt of its being fo much, it is not properly the current coin of the country, though it anfwers in commerce as well as if it were, being but a mere depofit of credit.—Yet it is confeffed to be very difficult to arrive at a juft diftribution of the faid fuppofed one hundred millions of current cafh amongft the feveral nations of Europe, more efpecially as we have not met with any former attempt for fuch a proportional diftribution thereof, by any author whatever.—Yet, although with regard to fome countries of Europe, we can do nothing more than conjecture, we fhall, however, though with diffidence, venture at it in round fums, viz.

Britain and Ireland, — —	£. 16,000,000
France, — — —	18,000,000
The Seventeen Provinces of the Netherlands —	12,000,000
Germany, Hungary, and Switzerland, —	9,000,000
Spain, — — —	8,000,000
Portugal, — — —	6,000,000
Italy, Sicily, and Venice, — —	10,000,000
Turkey in Europe, — — —	8,000,000
Ruffia, — — —	6,000,000
Poland, — — — —	4,000,000
Sweden, Denmark, and Norway, — —	3,000,000
	100,000,000

So that the utmoft we think we can make or reafonably call Europe's running or current cafh, amounts to one hundred millions fterling; and poffibly many may conjecture, we have allowed moft nations, and efpecially the northern ones, too much, and fome perhaps too little. Our judicious readers will not be ftartled at our allowing Spain and Portugal fo fmall a currency of cafh, who fupply Europe with both filver and gold, after what has been faid in our Introduction; nor for allowing France fo much, when the annual expence of that kingdom is duly confidered, as well as that of Britain and Ireland: the other nations, herein mentioned, may be varioufly reafoned upon with refpect to the quantum of their cafh, from various confiderations: as,

Firft, From the quantity of their commerce and manufactures.

Secondly,

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1719 Secondly, From the numbers of their people.

Thirdly, From their ſhipping.

Fourthly, The number and magnitude of their trading cities, &c.

From the beginning of November 1719, till about the middle of December following, the French India or Miſſiſippi ſtock was in its meridian glory: during which time, more eſpecially, and for ſome time before and after, the city of Paris was crowded with ſtrangers, and with foreigners from different nations, who haſtened thither for dealing in this ſtock. So that it was currently believed, there might then reſide at Paris half a million of ſtrangers more than uſual, and that twelve hundred new coaches were ſet up. Nothing ſcarcely to be ſeen but new and ſplendid equipages, new houſes, and finery in apparel. Lodgings ſcarcely to be had for money, and the higheſt prices given for proviſions, &c. in that city. Yet, in a few more months after, the very reverſe of all this was ſeen to be the miſerable condition of both city and country.

By an act of the Britiſh Parliament of the fifth year of King George, cap. xx. in the year 1719, For ſettling certain yearly Funds payable out of the Revenue of Scotland, to ſatiſfy the public Debts of that Kingdom,—and to diſcharge the Equivalents claimed on its behalf, &c. it was enacted, " That for obviating many doubts and difficulties, which the Commiſſi-" oners of the Equivalent have found too hard for them to ſettle, ariſing from the doubtful " and various conſtruction of the fifteenth article of the union of the two kingdoms, the " ſum of two hundred and forty-eight thouſand five hundred and fifty pounds nine pence half-" penny, ſhall be a capital ſtock, transferable, attended with an annuity, or annual fund, of " ten thouſand pounds out of the exciſe and cuſtoms of Scotland, as alſo ſix hundred pounds " per ann. for charge of management, out of thoſe revenues. The King is hereby impowered " to incorporate the proprietors thereof, who ſhall have perpetual ſucceſſion, &c. Yet the ſaid " ſtock is to be redeemable by Parliament." Which ſtock remains to this day transferable, and its directors meet weekly at their office in London, being thirteen in number; eleven reſiding in London, and two at Edinburgh: its charter is dated the eleventh of George, in the year 1724, on the twenty-firſt of November. They pay their proprietors four per cent. per annum.

By this ſame ſtatute, " two thouſand pounds per annum, out of the ſaid revenues of cuſ-" toms and exciſe in Scotland, was allotted for ever, to be wholly applied towards the encour-" aging and protecting the fiſheries and ſuch other manufactures and improvements in Scot-" land as may moſt conduce to the general good of the united kingdom, according to the te-" nor and true meaning of the ſaid fifteenth article of the union. Provided, however, that " upon payment by Parliament of forty thouſand pounds the ſaid annuity of two thouſand " pounds ſhall ceaſe and determine."

The irredeemable debts of England being at this time thought a dead weight on the public, the Miniſtry and Parliament were extremely deſirous to get rid of as many of them as they could, at a reaſonable rate: a bargain was therefore ſtruck in this ſame year 1719, with the South Sea Company, whereby, in the firſt place, the blank pay tickets and the prizes of the lottery of the year 1710, which were irredeemable annuities for thirty-two years from 1710, were now to be turned into redeemable principal ſums at five per cent. intereſt, by an act of Parliament of the fifth of King George, For redeeming the Fund appropriated for the payment of the Lottery Tickets, which were made forth for the Service of the Year 1710, by a voluntary Subſcription of the Proprietors into the capital Stock of the South Sea Company,

&c.

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1719 &c.—It was hereby, in ſubſtance, enacted, "That, whereas the nation at preſent pays one "hundred and thirty-five thouſand pounds per annum for twenty-three and three quarters "years to come, at Chriſtmas 1718, to the proprietors of that lottery:

	£.	s.	d.
1. They were now to have an offer of eleven and a half years purchaſe in South Sea ſtock - - - - - -	1,552,500	0	0
2. And they being one year and a quarter in arrear, they had an offer of ſtock for the ſame, being - - - - -	168,750	0	0
Total South Sea ſtock propoſed to be given, - -	£. 1,721,250	0	0
3. And the Government propoſing to make, in all, an increaſe of two million five hundred thouſand pounds to the company's capital, by that company's agreeing to advance the reſidue in money, for the public ſervices, the ſame would be - - - -	778,750	0	0
	£. 2,500,000	0	0
The intereſt of which laſt ſum, at five per cent. would be -	125,000	0	0
To which add, for charges of management - -	2000	0	0
So there remained eight thouſand pounds yearly ſaved, (as they then termed it) for the diſpoſition of Parliament, which ſaving they made out to be worth two hundred thouſand pounds - - -	8000	0	0
	£. 135,000	0	0

And as the Company's General Court, in December 1718, had ordered an increaſe of ten ſhillings per cent. to the dividends on their capital for the three ſucceeding laſt years, over and above the two and a half per cent for each half year, allowed by the public, in order to keep up the old dividend of ſix per cent. per annum, the propoſed to be increaſed capital of two million five hundred thouſand pounds, ſhould alſo enjoy that benefit, which for one year and a half would be thirty-ſeven thouſand five hundred pounds. This laſt ſum was propoſed to be deducted out of the before-named ſeven hundred and ſeventy-eight thouſand ſeven hundred and fifty pounds.

	£.	s.	d.
Nevertheleſs, many proprietors of the lottery 1710, refuſed to accept of thoſe conditions: ſo that of the ſaid one hundred and thirty-five thouſand pounds, there was only ſubſcribed into the South Sea Company -	94,329	12	0
Which, at twelve years and three quarters purchaſe, made in capital ſtock - - - - - -	2,202,702	8	0
And, in that proportion, the Company was obliged to advance only -	544,142	0	0
So that the total capital added to the Company by this ſcheme, was but	1,746,844	8	10

And

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1719 And the company's allowance from the government, for their proportion of the before-mentioned thirty-seven thousand five hundred pounds, was twenty-six thousand two hundred and two pounds thirteen shillings and four pence.

Lastly, As two million five hundred thousand pounds was to two thousand pounds, so was one million seven hundred and forty-six thousand eight hundred and forty-four pounds eight shillings and ten pence (the real augmentation of the company's stock) to one thousand three hundred and ninety-seven pounds nine shillings and six pence, the real annual sum due from the public, for charges of management for the said additional capital. Whether, instead of thus reducing a short temporary irredeemable debt, by an augmentation of the principal national debt, that short irredeemable term might not rather have been suffered to run out, may not, upon the whole, have been more eligible, as it might have been a pattern for the further cultivation of national frugality, is submitted to the judicious reader's consideration.

Thus, however, the South Sea Company's capital stock was, from and after Christmas 1718, increased to eleven million seven hundred and forty-six thousand eight hundred and forty-four pounds eight shillings and ten pence, and their whole annuity to five hundred and eighty-seven three hundred and forty-two pounds four shillings and five pence. By this act also the whole South Sea capital was made redeemable, on one year's notice, after Midsummer 1723, on repayment of their capital. This transaction with the public unfortunately laid a foundation, together with the sad example of the Missisippi stock, for the madness of the succeeding year 1720, of which we are, by and by, to give an account. In the mean time, in July 1719, by way of prelude, the South Sea Company opened a subscription for the sale of five hundred and twenty thousand pounds of their stock, part of the before-mentioned five hundred and forty-four thousand one hundred and forty-two pounds and ten pence added to their capital, which they now sold at one hundred and fourteen per cent. whereby they gained seventy-two thousand eight hundred pounds.

In this same year 1719, a bill was brought into Parliament, For rendering the laws concerning the importation of naval stores from the British American plantations more extensive, by extending it to all sorts of timber from thence. For, whereas in our trade thither, it sometimes happens, that the crops of tobacco, sugar, &c. fall short, many ships, in that case, are obliged to come to Great Britain dead-freighted; and some remain there a whole season, waiting for the next crop: it was therefore imagined, by the House of Commons, that if encouragement were given for bringing timber, &c. from our plantations, our ships would be sure of a lading, by which regulation, the demand from our northern colonies for British manufactures of all kinds would be greatly increased, and their people diverted from further attempts on manufactures of their own, which might interfere with those of Britain and Ireland.—But the people of the northern colonies were so surprised and disappointed, on account of certain clauses put into that bill, that, rather than they should stand part of it, they were very glad to have it dropped altogether. Such, for instance, as

" That none in the plantations should manufacture iron wares of any kind whatever, out of " any sows, pigs, or bars whatsoever; under certain penalties:"—By which clause, says an ingenious author, on this occasion, in behalf of the colonies, no smith in the plantations might make so much as a bolt, spike, or nail; whereby the colonies must have been brought into a miserable condition; the smith being, above all other trades, absolutely necessary in all other employments there. Amongst the rest, that of ship-building would have hereby been utterly destroyed,

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1719 destroyed, although by that article they make a great part of their returns for the purchase of British manufactures.

The House of Peers added another clause, "That no forge, going by water or other work "whatsoever, should be erected in any of the said plantations, for the making, working, or "converting of any sows, pigs, or cast-iron, into bar or rod-iron, upon pain, &c."—This second clause, says our said author, must have ruined all the iron-works in the colonies, to the great loss of their proprietors, and have given the French a fair handle to tempt them into their settlements which join to ours.

The chief opposers of the manufacture of iron in our American plantations, were the proprietors of our iron-works at home: and our author adds, what is probable enough, or rather within bounds, "That the iron manufacture of England, which is deemed the third of the "kingdom, employs two hundred thousand persons.—That the waste and destruction of the "woods in the counties of Warwick, Stafford, Worcester, Hereford, Monmouth, Gloucester, "and Salop, by these iron-works, is not to be imagined.—And that if some care be not taken "to preserve our timber from these consuming furnaces, there will not be oak enough left to "supply the royal navy and our mercantile shipping.—That within these sixty years, Ireland "was better stocked with oak timber than we now are. But the iron-works, since set up "there have, in a few years, swept away the wood to that degree, that they have not small "stuff enough left to produce bark for their tanning, nor timber for common uses: inso-"much that, at present, they are forced to have bark from England, and building timber "from Norway, &c. and to suffer their large hides to be exported untanned to Holland, Ger-"many, &c.—That about twenty thousand tons of iron are annually imported to England "from foreign parts, over and above what is made at home, for which we pay ready money; "and at twelve pound per ton comes to two hundred and forty thousand pounds, paid annu-"ally to foreigners; and the boards and other timber which we take of them comes to two "hundred thousand pounds more. Whereas, our own plantations would be paid for their "iron and timber in our manufactures; thereby evidently bringing a double benefit to the "nation.—That they have iron-stone all along the continent, from the southernmost part of "Carolina to the northernmost part of New England, in great plenty; and no part of the "world abounds more with prodigious quantities of wood, nor with more rivers and streams. "That the Swedes have laid near twenty-five per cent. additional duty on their iron: and "that the interruptions of our trade in the Baltic had greatly distressed our manufacturers for "want of iron.—That by the naval store laws, now in force, which comprehend only pitch, "tar, and turpentine, such great quantities thereof are produced and imported from our plan-"tations, as to enable us to export it in considerable quantities to the Streights, Spain, Por-"tugal, Holland, Bremen, and Hamburg.—That the taking of timber and iron, as well as "hemp and flax, from our own plantations, would employ a vast many ships and people.— "That iron, in particular, is a commodity of universal use, and certain in all parts of the "world, and therefore as much to be valued as gold or silver.—That the Dutch supply Por-"tugal, the Streights, and Turkey, with great quantities of iron; and had we a full supply "of it from our plantations, we might not only ballast our ships with it, but export great "quantities to those countries, and even to Africa and India.—That hemp, another most ne-"cessary naval store, may hereafter be so enhanced by the Czar of Russia, from whose ports "we are principally supplied with it, as to attempt, like the Swedes, to oblige us to receive "it by his own shipping, and at his own prices.

 Finally,

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1719 Finally, Our greateſt ſecurity and riches flow from our American plantations: and were "they encouraged to raiſe all the naval ſtores we want, how greatly would our riches be in-"creaſed as well as our navigation, people, and power." The ſame author, however, concludes, "That negro-ſlaves in our plantations ſhould not be permitted to work in manufac-"tures there, (as certainly many do) but to keep them to their original intent for planting "and drudgery. and alſo that the increaſe of woollen, &c. manufactures there, interfering "with thoſe of our own, ſhould be reſtrained as much as poſſible."

Theſe are points of the laſt importance to our commercial intereſts, wherefore we have enlarged the more upon them, in ſeveral parts of this work.

In this ſame year 1719, a convention was renewed and enlarged between his Majeſty of Great Britain and the free and imperial city and republic of Hamburg, concerning the trade to herrings, &c. viz.

Article I. "Hamburg grants permiſſion for importing freely to the ſaid city, herrings "caught on the Britiſh coaſts, upon paying the ſame duties of entry as are uſually paid for "Flemiſh or Dutch herrings.

II. and III. "The Britiſh herrings ſhall be brought into warehouſes, and ſhall be opened "in the ſame manner as thoſe of Holland are.

IV. "The ſenate to appoint two appraiſers and two packers, who ſhall take an oath of fide-"lity every year.

V. "If the proprietors or their factors come in perſon, they ſhall have liberty to vend their "herrings to any inhabitants, indifferently: and if they cannot diſpoſe of them in eight days, "to the inhabitants, they may afterwards ſell them to whomſoever they will, or may ſend them "whitherſoever they pleaſe.

VI. "When the proprietors would ſend their herrings to factors, they ſhall be at liberty to "chuſe their factors either from among the laudable Engliſh Company (*i. e.* of Merchant-"Adventurers) reſiding in the town, or elſe among the burghers.

VII. "His Britannic Majeſty's ſubjects ſhall always enjoy the ſame privileges and advan-"tages in the herring trade as are or ſhall be granted to the ſubjects of the States of the United "Netherlands.

VIII. "His Britannick Majeſty's ſubjects may alſo bring to Hamburg, ſalmon, ſtockfiſh, "cod, and all other ſorts of fiſh, either dried, ſmoaked, or in barrels, paying the cuſtomary "duties. And, in like manner, the inhabitants and burghers of Hamburg ſhall have free li-"berty to trade, according to their ancient cuſtom, to the provinces of the Britiſh king-"doms; and may carry their merchandize thither, and truck or exchange the ſame for thoſe "ſorts of fiſh and other goods.

Done at Hamburg, 8th February, 1719."

It was at this time computed, that from the year 1711 to 1719, both years included, being nine years, there had been exported from England to the Eaſt Indies, in foreign ſilver bullion the ſum of three million ſeven hundred and eighty-ſix thouſand and five pounds, which on a medium is one year with another four hundred and twenty thouſand ſix hundred and ſixty-ſeven pounds annually.

In the ſame year 1719, one Captain Barlow was ſent out by certain private adventurers, to make the diſcovery of a north-weſt paſſage to China, &c. through Hudſon's Bay. But this proved a moſt unfortunate attempt; for neither he nor any of his company were ever heard of.

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1719 Yet part of the wreck of his ship was said to be found in that Bay, in the latitude of sixty-three degrees north.—Ellis's Voyage to Hudson's Bay, in the year 1748, p. 78-9.

About the close of this year, a pamphlet appeared with a proposal for the South Sea Company's making a settlement in the country of Guiana, in South America, upon a plan which the anonymous author alleges he had laid before King William thirty years before. His pamphlet is entitled, An Historical Account of the Voyages and Adventures of Sir Walter Raleigh, from whom the author says he is descended. But, in our humble opinion, this supposed kinsman of that great man could not have touched upon any part of his adventures which does so little honour to him as that particular wild scheme; of which we have said enough in its place.—Next to the project of a north-west passage, this unaccountable whim of a settlement in Guiana has, at different times employed the most of our speculative schemers to the least purpose.

In this fifth year of King George the First, a patent was granted to Sir Thomas Lombe, for the sole and exclusive property for fourteen years, of that wonderful machine for Silk-throwing, sometime before erected by his brother on the river Derwent at Derby, by mills, which work three capital engines. This amazingly grand machine contains twenty-six thousand five hundred and eighty-six wheels, and ninety-seven thousand seven hundred and forty-six movements, which work seventy-three thousand seven hundred and twenty-six yards of organzine silk thread every time the water wheel goes round, being thrice in one minute, and three hundred and eighteen million five hundred and four thousand nine hundred and sixty yards in one day and night. One water wheel gives motion to all the other movements, of which any one may be stopped separately, without obstructing the rest.

One fire-engine conveys warm air to every individual part of this vast machine, containing in all its buildings half a quarter of a mile in length. The model of it is said to have been taken by Mr. Lombe, from the original in Piedmont, under the disguise of a common workman, he having secretly drawn its plan on paper, and then made his escape to England. These engines have saved a great deal of money to the nation, which they formerly paid for organzine or thrown silk to the Piedmontese, altogether with ready money. And, that we may take in all this matter together, the fourteen years being elapsed before Sir Thomas Lombe could make sufficient advantage thereof, upon his application to Parliament in the year 1732, by an act of the fifth of King George II. cap. viii. "fourteen thousand pounds was "granted to him from the public, as a consideration for the eminent services he has done the "nation, in discovering, introducing, and bringing to full perfection, at his own expence, "a work so useful and beneficial to this kingdom.—Provided, however, that his Majesty may "and shall direct proper persons to view the said three engines, and to take an exact model "thereof, to be deposited in such place as he shall appoint, to secure and perpetuate the said "art for the advantage of the kingdom." This statute mentions "the great obstruction to "this undertaking received by the King of Sardinia, in prohibiting the exportation of the raw "silk which these engines were made to work."

1720 We are now to enter upon the year 1720; a year remarkable beyond any other which can be pitched upon by historians for extraordinary and romantic projects, proposals, and undertakings, both private and national; as well respecting commercial concerns, as the great internal interests of the two most potent kingdoms of Europe:—and which, therefore, ought to be had in perpetual remembrance, not only as being what never had its parallel, nor, it is to be hoped, ever will hereafter; but, likewise, as it may serve for a perpetual memento to the

 legislators

1720 legiflators and minifters of our own nation, never to leave it in the power of any, hereafter, to hoodwink mankind into fo fhameful and baneful an impofition on the credulity of the people, thereby diverted from their lawful induftry.

We have feen, under the preceding year, to what extravagant lengths the once famous Mr. Law had led the Duke Regent of France, in order to get clear of the public incumbrances, by giving the unhappy proprietors of the French national debts what in the end proved little better than moonfhine. And we are forry to be obliged to add, that we have in part alfo already feen our own Britifh Parliament and Miniftry approaching too near (though not intentionally) to fuch unjuft and vifionary fchemes for leffening the Britifh national debts, by liftening to the propofals of crafty projectors, calculated for deceiving and hoodwinking the proprietors of thofe debts, by altering or changing the names, fhape, and pofition of them, too much refembling what is vulgarly called flight of hand, rather than for any folid diminution of thofe incumbrances. As if any other method whatever, confiftently with national juftnefs and honour, could affect a leffening of our incumbrances, but a clear and inviolable Sinking Fund, the confequence,

Firft, Of the frugal favings from the reduction of intereft.

Secondly, Of all needlefs expence, more efpecially in times of fettled peace; and,

Thirdly, From the increafe of foreign commerce proportionably increafing the public revenue. All other fchemes being an impofition upon and a difgrace to a nation enjoying liberty and property.

Other methods were, however, at this time adopted; to the ruin of many honourable and till then wealthy families, to the advancement of many low and obfcure perfons and families, and to the great temporary detriment of our commerce.

The grand point, as already obferved, which the Britifh government had now in view was the reduction of what is called the irredeemable annuities, created at divers times, in the reigns of King William and Queen Anne, moft of them for ninety-nine, and fome for ninety-fix and eighty-nine years, and others for fhorter terms, amounting in all to very near eight hundred thoufand pounds per annum. And the then managers of the South Sea Company having been fo fuccefsful in taking in the greateft part of the annuities of the lottery of 1710, the miniftry encouraged the directors of that company to make their propofals for reducing them all into a redeemable ftate.

It is now become unneceffary to relate a great deal of what paffed on this fubject. In January, that company at firft propofed to the Houfe of Commons to give three millions five hundred thoufand pounds to the public, for the privilege of taking in all the faid irredeemable debts, and alfo the redeemable debts then at the Exchequer and Bank, moftly bearing five per cent. either by purchafe from the proprietors or by fubfcription, into their capital ftock.— This project exciting the jealoufy of the Bank of England, the directors of the latter company on the very fame day offered above five millions for the fame privilege. This rivalfhip proved in effect the bane of the whole plan: for a fecond propofal of the South Sea Company amounted to no lefs than feven millions five hundred and fixty-feven thoufand five hundred pounds, in cafe all thofe debts fhould be fubfcribed, and in that proportion for any part of them, and alfo propofed farther, to pay, to the ufe of the public, one year's purchafe of all the long irredeemable annuities as fhould not be brought into their capital. The Bank made a fecond propofal, more advantageous to the public in feveral refpects, and therein obliged themfelves to give one thoufand feven hundred pounds Bank-ftock for every hundred pound

irredeemable

A. D. 1720 irredeemable long annuity. Let any one of but common underſtanding conſider one moment, how it could be poſſible for either company to effect what they now propoſed, ſo as not to be loſers themſelves, without egregiouſly deceiving and injuring the proprietors of theſe debts.—Was it not therefore moſt unaccountable in any Britiſh Parliament and miniſtry, to give encouragement to a propoſal of a nature pregnant with conſequences ſo very obvious, and of ſuch a pernicious tendency?

It ſeems, that upon the King's arrival from Hanover, in November 1719, this ſcheme was laid before the miniſtry by the managers of the South Sea Company; who, fluſhed with their late ſucceſs, carried their aims ſo far as to incorporate all the funds of the Bank, Eaſt India Company, and the Exchequer with their own capital. But, although that was not reliſhed, the very rumour of ſome ſuch ſcheme raiſed their ſtock to one hundred and twenty-ſix per cent. at the ſhutting of the books for Chriſtmas 1719. In concluſion, the South Sea Company's laſt propoſal was accepted in Parliament, and a bill brought in, ſixth of George I. For enabling that company to increaſe their preſent capital ſtock and fund, by redeeming ſuch public debts and incumbrances as are therein mentioned; for raiſing money to be applied for leſſening ſeveral of the public debts and incumbrances; for calling in the preſent Exchequer bills remaining uncancelled, and for making forth new bills, in lieu thereof, to be circulated and exchanged, upon demand, at or near the Exchequer.

The oppoſers of this bill in Parliament, in vain urged what afterwards proved but too true: "that it was calculated for the enriching of a few, and the ruin of many.—That it countenanced the pernicious practice of ſtock-jobbing, thereby diverting the proper genius of the "people from trade and induſtry.—That the artificial raiſing of South Sea ſtock ſo high as its "then exiſting price, whilſt the bill was then depending," viz. to three hundred and nineteen per cent. "was a dangerous bait for decoying the unwary to their ruin, by a falſe proſpect of "gain, and to part with what they had gotten with labour and induſtry for imaginary wealth. "That it would give foreigners an opportunity of perhaps trebling the great ſums they already "poſſeſſed in our funds, and would thereby drain the kingdom of its treaſure, when they "ſhould realize their ſtock.—That a national bargain ſhould wiſely be made with more advantage to the public than to individuals; but this ſcheme was quite the reverſe: ſince, if "South Sea ſtock ſhould be kept up at three hundred per cent. its old members would gain "above thirty millions, whilſt the public was only to avail themſelves of but a quarter part "of that ſum.—That although neither of the propoſals of the two rival companies were fit to "be received, yet that of the Bank was fairer, as they declared plainly what they would give "the long annuitants in their ſtock. But if, nevertheleſs, the South Sea Company's propoſals ſhould be accepted, the riſe of their ſtock ſhould be limited, for preventing the pernicious effects of ſtock-jobbing in ſo high a degree as was likely to happen."—To all which, and much more ſaid againſt the ſcheme, it was anſwered by the miniſterial advocates, "That "neither the miniſters nor the company could foreſee this great riſe of the ſtock: for, had its "price remained as it was when the bargain was firſt ſtruck, viz. at one hundred and thirty-ſeven per cent. the public would have been the greater gainer.—That the miniſtry had nothing in view but the eaſing of the nation of part of its preſent heavy load of debt, and the "putting the remainder into a method of being gradually diſcharged.—And, laſtly, that it "was but reaſonable, that the company ſhould enjoy the profit of the riſe of ſtock procured "by their own prudent conduct, &c."

It

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1720 It is to little purpoſe now to enlarge on the methods then taken by the South Sea Company's managers, for enabling them to execute ſo vaſt a ſcheme. Such as, the making their dividend warrants at Chriſtmas, 1719, to carry intereſt till Chriſtmas 1720, ſums under twenty pounds only excepted: their obtaining an act of this ſame ſeſſion, For making forth new Exchequer bills, not exceeding one million, at a certain intereſt; and for lending the ſame to the South Sea Company at an higher intereſt, &c.—Their taking in four money ſubſcriptions, for the ſale of their ſtock which they propoſed to gain by the ſcheme: which large ſums were particularly intended to enable the company to pay off ſuch of the redeemable debts as the reſpective creditors ſhould chuſe to take in principal money, inſtead of ſubſcribing the ſame into that company; and alſo for paying the above-named great ſum to the public for the privilege of this ſcheme; which ſum was deſtined by this act to be applied, in the firſt place, to pay off all ſuch debts not included in the company's new capital, as carried five per cent. intereſt, and afterwards to pay off part of the company's capital at five per cent. They were alſo hereby empowered to make calls of money on their members, or to open books for ſubſcriptions, or to grant annuities redeemable; or by ſuch other methods for raiſing money as their general courts ſhould direct; ſuch as loans on contracts, bills, bonds, or obligations under their common-ſeal, or on the credit of their ſtock, which was to be hereby reduced to four per cent. redeemable at Midſummer 1727: and the additional allowance for management was to be in proportion to that allowed for their old capital.—Not leſs than one million to be paid the company at any one time: but their trade and privileges were to continue for ever.

The debts propoſed to be taken in were:	£.	s.	d.
1. Irredeemable long annuities, per annum, — —	666,821	8	3½
—— Ditto, ſhort annuities, — — —	127,260	6	1
Making together, —	794,081	14	4½

The long annuities originally did not, in general, coſt the proprietors above ſixteen years purchaſe; ſo that the proprietors had been already overpaid their principal, and with legal intereſt alſo; and yet, after ſo many years elapſed, their preſent market-price was conſiderably more than what was originally paid for them at the Exchequer; and therefore they were now deemed an incumbrance on the public equal to their current value, and were to be juſtly conſidered in that light only.

For theſe long annuities the company obliged themſelves to allow the proprietors twenty years purchaſe; and fourteen years purchaſe for the ſhort annuities: but the grand fallacy was, that the company was not limited in the price they were to put on their ſtock to be given to them: whereas, on the contrary, the Bank's ſecond propoſal obliged themſelves to offer one thouſand ſeven hundred pounds bank-ſtock for every one hundred pounds per annum of long annuities, and in like proportion for the ſhort ones.

Total, ſo valued, was — — — £. 15,118,072 11 0

II. The redeemable debts at the Exchequer and Bank, carrying five per cent. intereſt, amounted to eleven millions ſeven hundred and ſeventy-nine thouſand ſix hundred and ſixty pounds eleven ſhillings and three-pence three-farthings; and thoſe at four per cent. to four millions ſeven hundred and ſixty-ſix thouſand eight hundred and twenty-one pounds fifteen ſhillings and nine-pence halfpenny. So that if all the public debts aforeſaid, amounting to thirty-one millions ſix hundred and ſixty-four thouſand five hundred and fifty-four thouſand pounds

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1720 pounds eighteen shillings and one penny farthing had been subscribed, the South Sea Company's capital stock would have been increased to the sum of forty-three millions four hundred and eleven thousand three hundred and ninety-nine pounds six shillings and eleven-pence farthing.

The South Sea directors, who were also, by commission, trustees for taking in the public debts, opened their first money subscription on the fourteenth of April, for the sale of two millions of their stock at three hundred per cent. the market-price that day being three hundred and twenty-five per cent. Some of the directors seemed to dislike this method, as copying too closely the Mississippi proceedings: yet the junto of managers judged it adviseable, in order to keep up the price of stock. And such was the concourse of persons of distinction to that subscription, that it was increased to two millions two hundred and fifty thousand pounds, and thereupon it soon sold for double the price of the first payment, which was sixty pounds, and the stock rose to three hundred and forty per cent.

Their next master-piece was, in a general court, where now were seen many of the highest rank and quality, to vote a dividend of ten per cent. in stock for the Midsummer half-year, 1720, as well to the new subscribers as to the old capital. This dividend was one great cause of the ensuing calamities, by occasioning too high an opinion of the value of the scheme.

At the same general court it was resolved, to grant money loans on stock, as far as five hundred thousand for four months, at five per cent. secretly enlarged to nine hundred thousand pounds. There were also at this time large premiums given by the agents of the managers for the refusal of stock at very high prices. More money was afterwards lent out both on stock and on subscription-receipts. On the other hand, the directors were constantly solicited for more subscriptions, loans, &c. And to so great a height was the frenzy already got, that the bare resolution of the court of directors, on the twenty-eighth of April, to receive the irredeemable annuities into their stock, influenced many of the proprietors of those annuities actually to deposit their annuities at the South Sea House, and implicitly to subscribe the same, before they knew what terms they were to have for them: some of whom, nevertheless, were the loudest afterwards in the clamours against the directors

On the thirtieth of April, a second money subscription was taken for one million of stock, at four hundred pounds per cent price, and this subscription was, in the same manner, increased to one million five hundred thousand pounds.

On the nineteenth of May, the directors declared the terms for the irredeemables subscribed to be, viz.

	£.	s.	d.
I. The long annuities they valued at thirty-two years purchase, and at that rate gave them seven hundred pounds stock for each one hundred pounds annuity, at three hundred and seventy five per cent. its value being —	2,625	0	0
And they gave them in bonds and money to the amount of —	575	0	0
The total, as they were thus valued, was —	3,200	0	0
II. To the other long annuities, called fourteen per cents. they gave for each ninety-eight pounds per annum, the same stock, valued as above —	2,625	0	0
And in bonds and money — — — —	511	0	0
Total —	3,136	0	0

And in this proportion for any greater or lesser sum of those annuities.

III. To

A. D. 1720 'III. To the ſhort irredeemables, called nine per cents. which, as well as the blank and prize tickets of the lottery of 1710, they valued at ſeventeen years purchaſe; and, at that rate, had the following terms, viz.

	£.	s.	d.
The nine per cents. for every ninety pounds per annum, had three hundred and fifty pounds ſtock, at three hundred and ſeventy-five per cent. —	1,312	10	0
And in bonds and money — — — —	217	10	0
Total —	1,530	0	0
Prizes of the lottery of 1710, for every one hundred pounds per annum they had four hundred pounds ſtock, at three hundred and ſeventy-five per cent. is	1,500	0	0
And bonds and money — — — —	200	0	0
Total —	1,700	0	0
Blank tickets of the lottery of 1710, for every ninety-eight pounds per annum, three hundred and fifty pounds ſtock, at three hundred and ſeventy five per cent. is — — — — —	1,312	10	0
And in bonds and money — — — —	353	10	0
Total —	1,666	0	0

Conſidering the frenzy of this time, it muſt be confeſſed, that theſe terms to the irredeemables were tolerably fair, had the ſubſcribers been allowed the immediate diſpoſal of the ſtock now allotted to them, which was far from being the intention of the junto. We muſt here alſo remark, in favour of the directors, that they gave ſix days time to theſe firſt ſubſcribers to declare their acceptance or non-acceptance of the ſaid terms, ſtock however being then, *i. e.* twenty-fifth of May, above five hundred pounds per cent. was the bait for their acquieſcence. So that in this, and moſt of the other tranſactions relating to this great and unparalleled affair, the ſubſcribing parties, eſpecially in the former part of the madneſs, were equally acceſſary to their own future loſſes with the conducters of the ſcheme; all ranks and claſſes of people eagerly forwarding their own ruin, through an exceſſive thirſt of gain. For, the numerous dealers in South Sea ſtock and ſubſcriptions, by daily continuing to buy, in the hope of their ſtill riſing higher, of which riſe they themſelves were the principal cauſe, did undoubtedly lay a temptation in the way of the managers for ſtill growing more extravagant in the rates or conditions of their future ſubſcriptions.

The author of this work remembers diſtinctly, that further on in this ſummer, a certain director, (Mr. E—d—n, long ſince dead) being aſked by a gentleman at Garraway's coffee-houſe, whether the report was true, that the court of directors ſoon intended to open their third ſubſcription at one thouſand per cent.?—Mr. E——— facetiouſly replied, "Truly, gen-" tlemen ſeem to ſtrive to talk us into ſome ſuch price, whether we will or no."—This, nevertheleſs, was by no means a ſufficient vindication of the court of directors; who, as ſworn truſtees for the proprietors, ought to have either ſtopped the unreaſonable riſe of ſtock, or elſe have diſqualified themſelves, and by a public declaration to the world, have teſtified their abſolute diſapprobation thereof. Neither indeed was the Board of Treaſury, who framed the famous act, to be at all juſtified, for not laying effectual reſtraints therein againſt even the bare poſſibility of any unreaſonable riſe of ſtock.

The

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1720 The first subscription of the irredeemable debts amounted to—

£.427,340 18 9 of the annuities for long terms.
48,132 0 0 of nine per cent. annuities.
and 15,988 4 0 of the lottery of 1710.

By the daily rise of South Sea stock, the fame and credit of the leading directors and managers rose in proportion. Addresses were made to them from persons of high rank; and, in testimony of ministerial approbation, several of the directors had the hereditary honour of Baronet conferred on them. Yet, very soon after, there happened such sudden fluctuations in their stock, sometimes even in the space of a few hours, as might have given clear indications of its precarious value, notwithstanding the various arts daily practised to keep it constantly rising. For, though on the second of June, it got up to eight hundred and ninety per cent. yet that vast price bringing many sellers the day following to Exchange Alley (now become a second Rue Quinquempoix) it fell before night to six hundred and forty; and yet the same evening rose again to seven hundred and seventy. On the sixth it was at eight hundred and twenty, but by the fourteenth fell to seven hundred and ten. Many were obliged to sell out their stock, to enable them to make their second payment on the first money subscription: and some began to have their eyes opened by the judicious calculations of Archibald Hutcheson, Esquire, and others. These alarming considerations obliged the managers to lend out great sums of money on South Sea stock at four hundred per cent. Which loans answered a double purpose;

First, By locking up so much stock, as was so pawned, and,

Secondly, By supplying the borrowers with the means of buying more.

So that, though the price of the stock was somewhat under eight hundred per cent. the Junto ventured so far out of their depth as to take a third money subscription, for the purchase of stock at one thousand per cent. in ten different payments of one hundred pounds each, for five millions of stock: crowds of people attending at the South Sea House, loudly calling for a new subscription, and even naming the price of one thousand per cent. And, in a few days, their first payment of one hundred pounds rose to four hundred pounds. Of the five millions now paid in for the said first payment, the managers lent out in one day three millions, for supplying the stock market with cash. A few days after the Midsummer shutting of their books, the price of South Sea-stock for the opening of them was at one thousand per cent. and upwards, including the ten per cent. Midsummer dividend.

Whilst South Sea-stock was thus in its meridian glory, the frenzy in part affected the other two great companies, by raising them greatly above their just value, viz. East India stock to four hundred and forty-five per cent. and Bank-stock to two hundred and sixty per cent. This rise was partly occasioned by the sellers out of South Sea-stock, and also out of the bubbles, (as they were justly termed) or numerous lesser stocks, at very high prices; who thought their money safer in being invested in the two great companies stocks. The advanced prices of all which stocks, greater or lesser, of every kind, were at this time, viz. about Midsummer 1720, computed to amount to about five hundred millions sterling; or about five times as much as the current cash of all Europe. And if the yearly rents of all the lands and houses in Great Britain did not then exceed fourteen millions, and that the utmost value thereof (houses and lands together) did not exceed sixteen years purchase on an average, or two hundred and twenty-four millions of money; then here was above double the value of the fee-simple of all the immoveable property of the nation in this chimerical traffic; whilst

the

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1720 the real and fubftantial traffic of many of the dealers therein was for many months in a great meafure fufpended, or at leaft much neglected:

On the fourth of Auguft, the fecond fubfcription of the irredeemable annuities was taken at the South Sea Houfe, viz.

£.	s.	d.	
125,392	17	6	long annuities.
18,750	0	0	nine per cents.
And 14,906	6	0	of lottery 1710.

Firft, The long annuities (all but the fourteen per cents.) had four hundred pounds South Sea-ftock, and four hundred pounds in bonds and money for each hundred pounds per annum, the faid annuities being now valued at thirty-fix years purchafe.

Secondly, And for every ninety-eight pounds per annum of the fourteen pounds per cents. they gave four hundred and twenty pounds in ftock, and one hundred and fixty-eight pounds in bonds and money.

Thirdly, For every ninety pounds per annum of the nine per cent. annuities, they allowed two hundred pounds ftock, being feventeen feven-ninths years purchafe.

Fourthly, For every hundred pounds per annum of the prizes of lottery 1710, they gave two hundred pounds ftock, and one hundred and fifty pounds bonds and money, which was feventeen one-half years purchafe.

Fifthly, For every ninety-eight pounds per annum of the blank tickets of 1710, they gave two hundred and ten pounds ftock, and thirty-five pounds in bonds and money, being likewife at the rate of feventeen one-half years purchafe.

At the fame time there was fubfcribed fourteen millions three hundred and ninety-three thoufand feven hundred and eighty-eight pounds of the redeemable debts, every hundred pounds being taken in or valued at one hundred and five, and, on the twelfth of Auguft, (South Sea-ftock being about nine hundred and ten per cent. the Midfummer dividend included) they declared their valuing ftock at eight hundred per cent. for thefe redeemables fubfcribed. But, although thefe redeemable-proprietors were about fixteen thoufand perfons in number, they were not allowed the choice of withdrawing their fubfcriptions, after the faid price was now declared, which made a moft grievous clamour (foon after upon the fall of the ftock) both in print and converfation.

Many ways were now found neceffary by the Junto to keep up the price of South Sea-ftock, after thus taking in the proprietors of the public debts at fuch extravagant rates, fuch as the giving credit for fix months, at four per cent. intereft, for the third payment of the firft fubfcription, and the fecond payment of the fecond money fubfcription, in order to keep a plenty of cafh in the dealers hands, &c.

But of all the rafh proceedings of the managers, during the execution of their fcheme, none proved more quickly fatal than their obtaining of the government, on the eighteenth of Auguft, a *fcire facias* againft thofe airy projects called bubbles, which, at this time, were become very numerous, and had greatly advanced in their prices, even after an act of Parliament of this fame feffion, cap. xvii. had paffed for fuppreffing them, entitled, An Act for better fecuring certain Powers and Privileges intended to be granted by his Majefty by two Charters for Affurance of Ships and Merchandize at Sea; and for lending Money upon Bottomree;—and for reftraining feveral extravagant and unwarrantable Practices therein mentioned, as well as of a royal proclamation for enforcing the laws againft them: fo that Exchange Alley, like the Rue Quinquempoix at Paris, was daily crowded from morning to night (as well as the

coffee

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1720 coffee houses) with dealers in those bubbles; many of which, having obsolete and forfeited charters, under that pretext,

First, Took large money subscriptions for carrying on what they had no right to do.

Secondly, Others of them grafted new and additional projects on these obsolete charters, originally granted for very different purposes.

Thirdly, A third species of bubbles, and the most numerous, did not even pretend so much as to any such obsolete charters, or other authority whatever.

It is indeed very true, that the traffic in these did greatly promote luxury, idleness, and extravagance in the middling and lower classes of people; diverting them from their wonted industry and frugality. But the great mistake of the South Sea managers concerning those bubbles was their belief that their traffic obstructed the rise of South Sea-stock; whereas, on the contrary, it was quickly found, that the trade in them was assisting in keeping up the price of South Sea-stock: for, very many of the lower people, not being at first able to purchase South Sea-stock, ran greedily into the bubbles, and even into smaller shares or parts of them, and having soon gained considerably therein, they usually or very often came afterwards into South Sea-stock and subscriptions. And thus those lesser currents or rivulets were a constant supply to the great South Sea River: but this the managers did not perceive till it was too late.

It appeared, by an enquiry of the House of Commons, in February preceding, that this humour of new projects or bubbles had been on foot for two or three years past, as also appeared by a petition in January 1718, for a charter for insuring ships and merchandize, signed by near three hundred merchants and gentlemen, and that a million of money had been previously subscribed for it. That another petition, about the same time, for a Grand Fishery Company, was signed by seven peers of the realm, and many merchants and gentlemen. A third petition was, in May 1719, by the (so called) Societies of the City of London for the Mines Royal, the Mineral and Battery Works, under certain obsolete charters of Queen Elizabeth and King James the First, for mines, &c. for a like patent to insure ships and merchandize, for which one million one hundred and fifty-two thousand pounds had been subscribed. These were, in the main, the same persons as those in the before-named first petition: they petitioned a third time, on the eighth of January 1720, (N. S.) only as so many private gentlemen and merchants, dropping their claim by the before-named obsolete charters, and were in the end successful by their present name of the Royal Exchange Assurance Company; its capital consisting of five hundred thousand pounds. That same day, another body of petitioners applied for a patent for insuring ships and merchandize, with a subscription of two millions, and were incorporated also in the end, by the name of the London Assurance Company. This last named company had at first two separate subscriptions, which were afterwards united. Its stock or capital at present consisting of thirty-six thousand pounds shares, on each of which twelve pounds ten shillings was originally paid. This was the original rise of the two very useful and flourishing insurance corporations, who also are empowered to lend money on bottomree; and each of them afterwards obtained charters for insuring from loss by fire. Yet neither of them are by the before-quoted statute, nor by their consequent charters, exclusive in any respect relating to private persons, who may and still do enjoy and practise insurance on ships and merchandize as formerly; but with respect to all other corporations they are both exclusive; excepting however the East India and South Sea

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1720 Companies, both which corporations may still continue to advance money, says the statute, by bottomree on their own ships.

A third petition of a different body of people was presented to the King, on the twenty-first of January 1720,' (N. S.) for an insurance charter, which did not succeed. And,

On the eighth of the said month, three English peers, two bishops, and an Irish peer, with many eminent gentlemen and merchants, petitioned the King, "That they might be in-"corporated for purchasing and improving of forfeited and other estates in Great Britain.— "For granting annuities for lives: and for insuring of lives:—Seeing," continues this petition, "this will unite, by interest, many of the King's subjects against the Pretender and his "adherents for ever. In order to which, several of the petitioners have sent persons into "Scotland for purchasing the forfeited estates there, and have since, by a voluntary subscrip-"tion to the Governor and Company of Undertakers for raising the Thames Water in York "Buildings, raised a joint-stock of one million two hundred thousand pounds sterling: upon "the credit of which estates they propose to grant annuities for and to insure on lives; for "the benefit of such of his Majesty's subjects as are streightened in their fortunes by the re-"duction of interest." But they did not desire any exclusive charter. The same day also, another set of gentlemen in vain petitioned for the very same purpose.

When those petitions for insurance, &c. came to be referred to and considered by the crown lawyers, they were opposed by counsel on the other side, the grand fishery scheme alone excepted, viz. The insurance petitioners, by the numerous friends of the private insurers, and by the Amicable Society for a perpetual Insurance on Lives, with Benefit of Survivorship; which society, their counsel set forth, "was incorporated in the fifth year of Queen Anne, in "the year 1706, constituting any number of persons, not exceeding two thousand, to be a "body-politic, for raising a joint-stock, for the relief of widows and orphans, by granting "policies on lives, with annual payments during such lives; on the decease of which lives "a certain sum is paid as a dividend to the proprietors of such policies:" and alleging, "that "these petitions for insurances would prejudice their interests."

The petitioners for purchasing of the forfeited estates were advised by counsel to withdraw their petition, as they might safely transact all they wanted to do, by virtue of the powers of a charter of the twenty-seventh of King Charles the Second, For raising the Thames Water in York Buildings; which charter these petitioners had purchased of the old patentees for seven thousand pounds, together with all the benefits of a private act of Parliament of the second of William and Mary, For Incorporating the Proprietors of the Water Works in York Buildings, and for encouraging, carrying on, and settling the said Water Works.

The two first-named petitions for insurance were, as already observed, approved of, and the crown lawyers reported, That a fishery charter, under proper regulations, might be very beneficial to the nation. Which fishery had been further favoured by the following resolution of the House of Commons, on the twenty-seventh of April 1720, viz.

"That the undertaking proposed to be carried on by the name of the British Fishery, "wherein the sea ports and royal burghs are concerned, may be successfully carried on, and "thereby prevent great sums from going annually out of the nation; may secure a valuable "trade, and may, upon any emergency, furnish seamen to man the royal navy: and there-"fore highly deserves encouragement."

Nevertheless, no charter was at this time granted for the fishery; occasioned by the improbability, if not impossibility, of any company's being able, unless an exclusive one, to carry on

a profitable

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1720 a profitable fishery. Since, if private undertakers, being on the northern coasts, are not as yet able to beat the Dutch out of the fishery, it is highly improbable, that a Joint-stock Company, which is never so frugally managed as private adventurers do their own money, should prove successful. Of which we have a more recent proof at present, notwithstanding the most unparalleled parliamentary encouragements.

The two Insurance companies were both incorporated on the same day and year, viz. the twenty-fourth of June 1720, the statute in favour of them having had the royal assent fourteen days before. " Each having power for purchasing lands, &c. of one thousand pounds " yearly: but no person can be either a director or proprietor of both companies at the same " time. Each company's capital not to exceed one million five hundred thousand pounds.— " May make calls on their proprietors, without limitation.—May create bonds, under their " common seal, for advancing money on parliamentary security, but for not less than six " months time.—Each corporation to pay three hundred thousand pounds for discharging the " King's civil list debts.—No other corporation shall insure but these two.—Yet private in- " surers may act as before.—May be determined by the King's charter, if found inconvenient " to the public; in which case no other corporation shall ever be erected in their stead, with " the like privileges." Part of the said three hundred thousand pounds was afterwards remitted to each of those two companies.

They both have very considerable capital stocks, and therefore may reasonably be presumed a greater security to our merchants than private insurers can be fairly admitted to be, how just and honourable soever their principles and character, and how large soever their fortunes in general may be, a list being on this occasion laid before the Attorney General of one hundred and fifty private insurers who had failed but a few years past. It was then also urged in behalf of Insurance-companies having large capitals, that the merchants of foreign nations in alliance or at peace with us would now probably be induced, in great numbers, to make their insurances at London; and thereby bring an additional benefit to the kingdom. And as both the said Insurance-companies have continued punctually and inviolably to sustain their credit and reputation, this just commendation of both of them fell naturally in our way.

The act of Parliament before-mentioned, for enabling the King to incorporate those two Insurance Companies, was also expressly for restraining several unwarrantable practices therein mentioned. " Several such projects of different kinds having, since the twenty-fourth of " June 1718, been set on foot in London and other parts of the kingdom, as also in Ireland, " which manifestly tend to the common grievance of the subject; the contrivers whereof, " under false pretences of public good, have presumed to open books for public subscriptions " for the same, and have drawn unwary persons to subscribe large sums to such undertakings, " paying down only small proportions thereof, which yet upon the whole do amount to very " large sums; in many cases acting as bodies-politic, by transferring of shares, &c. Others " acting under charters granted for quite different purposes, and others under obsolete char- " ters, become void by non-user or abuser, &c.—Which dangerous projects do relate to " several fisheries, &c. wherein the trade, commerce, and welfare of the people are concern- " ed."—For the suppression and prevention of which mischievous practices, it was enacted, " That, from and after the twenty-fourth of June 1720, all such undertakings and attempts " so described as aforesaid, and all other undertakings tending to the common grievance, and " all public subscriptions, receipts, payments, assignments, and transfers for such matters, " shall be for ever deemed illegal and void, and to be deemed public nuisances, liable to such

" fines

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1720 " fines and punishments as the laws direct.—And persons acting as brokers for others, or for " themselves, either in buying or selling, shall forfeit five hundred pounds, and shall be in-" capable of acting afterward as such. But this act shall not extend to undertakings settled " before Midsummer 1718." This clause saved harmless and entire several undertakings, though not incorporated, such as, the several fire insurance offices, and the several subscriptions to the South Sea Company, &c.

" Lastly, The two insurance corporations, hereby established, are expressly restrained from " lending money to the crown on parliamentary funds, except on the credit of acts of " Parliament."

The more to enforce this statute, the King, on the very day he passed it, viz. on the eleventh of June 1720, issued a proclamation, strictly enjoining the observation of the latter part of it relating to those projects vulgarly called bubbles; in consequence of which it might have been expected, that they would have all shrunk to their original nothing in a moment. For a few days, indeed, some check was given by this measure to that frantic traffic: yet, in the face of all authority, it soon revived and even increased more than ever, and whilst they daily advanced in price, every one was a gainer, so that the lower class of people fell into luxury and prodigality, as well as their betters. From morning till evening the dealers therein, as well as in South Sea-stock, appeared in continual crowds all over Exchange Alley, so as to choak up the passage through it. Not a week-day passed without fresh projects recommended by pompous advertisements in all the newspapers, which were now swelled enormously, directing where to subscribe to them. On some, six-pence per cent. was paid down; on others, one shilling per cent. and some came so low as one shilling per thousand, at the time of subscribing. Some of the obscure keepers of those books of subscription, contenting themselves with what they had got in the forenoon, by the subscriptions of one or two millions, (one of which the author particularly well remembers,) were not to be found in the afternoon of the same day, the room they had hired for a day being shut up, and they and their subscription-books never heard of more. On others of those projects, two shillings and two shillings and six-pence per cent. was paid down; and on some few ten shillings per cent. was deposited, being such as had some one or more persons of known credit to midwife them into the alley. Some were divided into Shares, instead of hundreds and thousands, upon each of which so much was paid down, and both for them and the other kinds, there were printed receipts signed by persons utterly unknown.

Persons of quality of both sexes were deeply engaged in many of these bubbles, avarice prevailing at this time over all considerations of either dignity or equity; the males coming to taverns and coffee houses to meet their brokers, and the ladies to the shops of milliners and haberdashers for the same ends. Any impudent impostor, whilst the delusion was at its greatest height, needed only to hire a room at some coffee house or other house near that alley, for a few hours, and open a subscription book, for somewhat relative to commerce, manufacture, plantation, or of some supposed invention, either newly hatched out of his own brain, or else stolen from some of the many abortive projects of which we have given an account in former reign , having first advertised it in the newspapers the preceding day, and he might, in a few hours, find subscribers for one or two millions (in some cases more) of imaginary stock. Yet many of those very subscribers were far from believing those projects feasible: it was enough for their purpose that there would very soon be a premium on the receipts for those subscriptions, when they generally got rid of them in the crowded alley to others more credulous

 than

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1720 than themſelves. And in all events, the projector was ſure of the depoſit money. The firſt purchaſers of thoſe receipts ſoon found ſecond purchaſers, and ſo on, at ſtill higher prices, coming from all parts of the town, and even many from the adjacent countries: and ſo great was the wild confuſion in the crowd in Exchange Alley, that the ſame project, or bubble, has been known to be ſold, at the ſame inſtant of time, ten per cent. higher at one end of the alley than at the other end. Amongſt thoſe many bubbles, there were ſome ſo bare-faced and palpably groſs, as not to have ſo much as the ſhadow of any thing like feaſibility. The infatuation was at length ſo ſtrong, that one project was, in the newſpapers, advertiſed thus, For ſubſcribing two Millions to a certain promiſing or profitable Deſign, which will hereafter be promulgated.

We can well remember, one of thoſe named Globe Permits, which came to be currently ſold each for ſixty guineas and upwards in the alley, which nevertheleſs was only a ſquare bit of a playing card, on which was the impreſſion of a ſeal in wax, being the ſign of the Globe tavern in the neighbourhood, with the motto or inſcription of Sail Cloth Permits, without any name ſigned thereon, the poſſeſſors thereof being to be hereafter permitted to ſubſcribe to a new ſail cloth manufactory, projected by one who was then known to be a man of fortune, though afterwards involved in great calamities and diſgrace.

Theſe inſtances out of hundreds more that might be produced are ſufficient to diſplay the frenzy of the time; when the taverns, coffee houſes, and even victualling houſes, near the Exchange were conſtantly crowded, and became the ſcenes of incredible extravagance. The very advertiſements of thoſe bubbles were ſo many as to fill up two or three ſheets of paper in ſome of the daily newſpapers for ſome months. Yet, all men were not infatuated: and one advertiſement in a weekly newſpaper well enough burleſqued the then madneſs of men, in the following ſtrain. " At a certain (ſham) place, on Tueſday next, books will be opened for a ſubſcription of two millions, for the invention of melting down ſaw-duſt and chips, and " caſting them into clean deal boards, without cracks or knots!"

Before we return to the remainder of the execution of the grand South Sea ſcheme, we ſhall, as an uſeful warning to poſterity, here exhibit a more complete catalogue than any we have ſeen, of the ſtocks, ſubſcriptions, projects, or bubbles, of this unparalleled time, when their higheſt prices in Exchange Alley, before the fatal *ſine ſacias* had (like the touch of Ithuriel's ſpear) reduced them all to their proper ſize and value.

GREAT CORPORATIONS.	ORIGINAL MONEY PAID IN OR DUE. £. s. d.	HIGHEST PRICES SOLD FOR IN 1720. £. s. d.
I. South Sea ſtock -	100 0 0	1000 0 0
Ditto firſt money ſubſcription, at three hundred pounds per cent.	120 0 0	750 0 0
Ditto, ſecond ditto, at four hundred pounds per cent. - -	80 0 0	600 0 0
Ditto, third ditto, at one thouſand pounds per cent. - -	100 0 0	440 0 0
Ditto, fourth ditto, at one thouſand pounds per cent. - -	200 0 0	245 0 0

GREAT

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GREAT CORPORATIONS CONTINUED.	ORIGINAL MONEY PAID IN OR DUE.				HIGHEST PRICES SOLD FOR IN 1720.		
	£.	s.	d.		£.	s.	d.
East India capital stock (three million two hundred thousand pounds) - -	100	0	0		445	0	0
Bank of England (capital then five million five hundred and fifty-nine thousand nine hundred and ninety-five pounds fourteen shillings and eight pence) -	96	13	5½		260	0	0
—This was the Bank's nominal or transferable capital: yet the government actually owed them no more than five million three hundred and seventy-five thousand twenty-seven pounds seventeen shillings and ten pence halfpenny (till the year 1722, when they purchased four millions of the South Sea Company) whereby one hundred pounds Bank stock, as due from the public, was now really no more than ninety-six pounds thirteen shillings and five pence halfpenny. So that all its advanced value must and did arise from the different profits of banking - -							
Royal African stock (old capital four hundred thousand pounds, additional one, one million six hundred thousand pounds) -	23	0	0		200	0	0
DOUBTFUL CHARTERS.							
II. Million Bank (five hundred thousand pounds) - -	100	0	0		440	0	0
York Buildings Company (one million two hundred thousand pounds) - -	10	0	0		305	0	0
Lustring Company, ten thousand shares, valued at one million two hundred thousand pounds (not worth one farthing) - -	5	2	6	per Share	120	0	0

DOUBTFUL

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DOUBTFUL CHARTERS CONTINUED.	ORIGINAL MONEY PAID IN OR DUE.				HIGHEST PRICES SOLD FOR IN 1720.			
	£.	s.	d.		£.	s.	d.	
Engliſh Copper Company -	5	0	0	per Share	105	0	6	per Share
Welch Copper Company, (worth nothing at all) - -	4	2	6	per Cent.	95	0	0	per Cent.
Royal Fiſhery Company (Nil)	10	0	0	Ditto.	25	0	0	Ditto.

N. B. The Hudſon's Bay Company's capital being ſo ſmall as one hundred and ten thouſand pounds was engroſſed by ſo few, that it was not known what its price was at that time.

DESERTED COMPANIES.

III Obſerve alſo, That beſide the great legal companies, whoſe ſtocks were uſually tranſacted in 'Change-alley, there were, and ſtill are, ſome whoſe capitals are too ſmall to come thither, and do therefore vary but little in price, ſuch as, the New River Company, the London-bridge Water Company, the Shadwell, Hampſtead, Southwark, and Chelſea Water Companies. Alſo the Sun Fire-office Inſurance: alſo ſeveral obſolete joint-ſtock corporations, ſo far ſunk and deſerted, that their ſtock, at this time, bore no price at all, ſuch were the

Mine-Adventurers Company of England,

Sword Blade Company,

Frame-work Knitters Company, and

Charitable Corporation for Pledges.

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LOCAL AND PARTICULAR PROJECTS.	ORIGINAL MONEY PAID IN OR DUE.				HIGHEST PRICES SOLD FOR IN 1720.			
	£.	s.	d.		£.	s.	d.	
IV. For Local and Particular Purposes, viz.								
For making the river Douglas navigable - - -	5	0	0	per Share	70	0	0	per Share
For fresh water brought to Liverpool - - -	10	0	0	Ditto.	20	0	0	Ditto.
Temple Mills brass works -	10	0	0	Ditto.	250	0	0	Ditto.
Fish Pool, for bringing fresh fish by sea to London (Sir Richard Steele's) - - -	..	..	..		160	0	0	per Share; before any money paid down.
Hamburg Company (for bringing commerce thither from Hamburg, and for a lottery there, one million five hundred thousand nominal capital) -	15	0	0		120	0	0	per Cent.
Puckle's machine gun, called the Defence - -	4	0	0		8	0	0	for Ditto.
Another Hamburg subscription, (Burges's) ineffectual.								
V. Projects or Bubbles, having neither charter nor act of Parliament to authorise them: none of which were under one million, and some went as far as ten millions: very many whereof are distinctly remembered by the author of this work, how ridiculous and improbable soever they may now seem to many not acquainted with the infatuation of that year, viz.								
The Orkney fishery - -	25	0	0		250	0	0	
Globe Permits, (for subscribing some time or other to a project for a sail-cloth manufacture -	..	..	..		70	0	0	
For building of ships to let to Freight - - -	1	0	0	Ditto.	15	0	0	
For raising of hemp and flax at home - - -	0	2	6	Ditto.	1	10	0	
Another in Pennsylvania -	2	10	0		28	0	0	

LOCAL

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LOCAL AND PARTICULAR PROJECTS CONTINUED.	ORIGINAL MONEY PAID IN OR DUE.		HIGHEST PRICES SOLD FOR IN 1720.	
	£. s. d.		£. s. d.	
Improvement of land (Sir John Lambert's) - -	5 0 0	per Share	20 0 0	
For a whale-fishery (by ditto) -	0 10 0		3 10 0	
National Permits, for a fishery, (Geo. James's, fifty thousand permits, at six pounds each) -	5 0 0	per Share	60 0 0	Each Permit, before any money paid down.
Salt to be made at Holyhead, two millions - -	5 0 0	per Share	15 0 0	
For settling on the Bahama Islands (six thousand pounds had actually been paid in on this project, in which many eminent persons were sufferers, as appeared by their petition to Parliament, February 1723-4, but was rejected because it would have brought endless petitions of that sort, for redress of such grievances) -	3 0 0	Ditto	40 0 0	
The grand fishery (so named) -	0 10 0	Ditto	5 0 0	
A Bottomree Company -	1 0 0	Ditto	3 0 0	
Westley's auctions (*i. e.* actions) for buying and selling of stocks	7 10 0	Ditto	100 0 0	
General Insurance from fire, one million two hundred thousand pounds - - - -	0 2 6	Ditto	8 0 0	
Royal Exchange Assurance, five hundred thousand pounds, valued at two million five hundred thousand pounds - -	Sundry Payments.		250 0 0	per Cent.
London Assurance Company, thirty-six thousand shares, twelve pounds ten shillings each, valued three million six hundred thousand pounds, once -	Ditto		175 0 0	per Share

Some of the foregoing bubbles, we may see, were sold at above six times the money paid in on the same: others very near as high, and all shamefully and madly raised. It would be endless to hunt for the prices of many more, which were the embrios of a few days, though they

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1720 they drew in numbers of unwary perſons to their undoing. We ſhall therefore content ourſelves with exhibiting a bare liſt of them in the following catalogue, viz.

VI. Fisheries.
1. Cawood's North Sea fiſhery.
2. Britiſh fiſhery.
3. A royal fiſhery, for ten millions.
4—5. Two more Greenland, or whale fiſheries.
6. A grand American fiſhery.
7. Garraway's or Pillan's fiſhery.
8. The free fiſhery.
9. A coral fiſhery.
10. Wrecks to be fiſhed for on the Iriſh coaſt.
11. Another Greenland fiſhery.
12. Orkney fiſhery.

VII. Salt.
1. Another ſalt project, beſide the one already mentioned.
2. Rock-ſalt project.
3. Saltpetre to be made.
4. Saltpans in Holy Iſland two millions.

VIII. Insurances,
1. Sadler's Hall inſurance, afterwards united to the Royal Exchange ditto.
2. Inſurance of horſes and other cattle, two millions.
3. Inſurance and improvement of childrens fortunes.
4. Inſurance of houſes and goods in Ireland, with an Engliſh Earl at the head of it.
5. Inſurance of loſſes by ſervants.
6. Friendly Society for inſurances.
7. Britiſh inſurance, ſo called.
8. Shales's inſurance.
9. Inſurance againſt theft and robbery.
10. Ditto for inſuring of ſeamen's wages.

IX. Remittances of Money.
1. General remittance and inſurance of debts.
2. Stogden's remittances.

X. Water Companies.
1. An engine to bring freſh water into the town of Deal, in Kent.
2. A project to bring water by a new canal from St. Alban's to London.
3. Another from Rickmanſworth to London.
4. To make ſalt-water freſh.

XI. Sugar.
1. Refining of ſugar.
2. Bleaching or whitening of coarſe ſugar without fire.

2 XII. America.

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1720 XII. America.

1. For settling the Isle of Santa Cruz in America.
2. ———— Isles of Blanco and Sal Tortuga in ditto.
3. Trade to the River Oronoko.
4. ——— to Nova Scotia, two millions.
5. ——— to the Golden Islands, Sir Robert Montgomery's.
6. ——— for importing of naval stores from Nova Scotia and Virginia.
7. ——— for walnut-tree from Virginia, two millions.
8. ——— for hemp and flax from Pennsylvania.
9. ——— for beaver fur, two millions.
10. ——— for pitch and tar, from America and Scotland.
11. ——— for importing and exporting of tobacco, four millions.

XIII. Buildings.

1. Building and re-building of houses in England.
2. For purchasing grounds to build on in London.

XIV. Lands.

1. For meliorating of lands.
2. For improving of lands in Great Britain, four millions subscribed for.
3. ———— in Flintshire, one million subscribed for.
4. For improving the breed of horses, and the improvement of glebe and church lands, &c.
5. Planting of madder.
6. Improving of gardens.
7. For purchasing and improving of lands.
8. Ditto for a Royalty in Essex.
9. Ditto for fenny lands in Lincolnshire.
10 Ditto for improving of tillage and cattle.
11. Another for the breed of horses.
12. Another for purchasing the forfeited estates, (Sir James Hallet's) one million two hundred thousand pounds subscribed.
13. For the corn trade.

XV. Oil Bubbles.

1. An oil patent, with land security.
2. Rape oil subscription.
3. Beech oil, Aaron Hill's project.
4. For making of oil from poppies.
5. ———— sun-flower seed.
6. ———— reddish seed.

XVI. Harbours and Rivers.

1. For repairing of Morison's Haven.
2. For an engine to take up ballast.
3. For making the river Dee, in Cheshire, navigable.
4. Ditto for the River Douglas.

XVII. Supplies

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1720 XVII. SUPPLIES FOR LONDON, VIZ.

1. For fupplying London with fea coal, three millions.
2. ——————————— cattle.
3. ——————————— hay and ftraw.
4. For paving its ftreets, two millions.

XVIII. HEMP, FLAX, AND THEIR MANUFACTURES, VIZ.

1. For planting of hemp and flax in Scotland and Ireland, and for making of fail-cloth, cordage, &c.
2.—3. Two other different fail-cloth fubfcriptions.
4. For the Holland and fail-cloth manufactures,
5. For the cambrick and lawn manufactures.
6. Sail-cloth in Ireland.

XIX. FOR THE SILK AND COTTON MANUFACTURES, VIZ.

1. For raifing of filk-worms.
2. Another for planting of mulberry trees, and breeding of filk-worms in Chelfea Park, (by Sir Richard Manningham) where two thoufand of thefe trees were actually planted, and many large expenfive edifices were erected; the remains whereof are fcarcely now to be feen.
3. For making of muflin.
4. For improving the cotton, and the filk and cotton manufactures.
5. Another for improving the filk manufactures.

XX. METALS, MINES, AND MINERALS, VIZ.

1. For making iron and fteel in Great Britain, four millions.
2. For the improving Englifh iron and fteel.
3. For extracting filver from lead.
4. For improving the tin mines of Cornwall and Devonfhire.
5. For the tranfmuting quickfilver into a malleable and fine metal.
6. For fmelting lead.
7. For milling lead.
8. For improving Mr. Wood's iron works and manufactures.
9. ——————— the lead mines in Gloucefterfhire.
10. For importing Swedifh iron.
11. For improving Englifh copper and brafs.
12. ——————— the Derbyfhire mines.
13. ——————— the Jamaica mines.
14. ——————— the Britifh allum works.
15. For making of iron with pit coal.

XXI. For making of fire-engines.

XXII. For building of hofpitals for baftard children.

XXIII. For erecting of turnpikes and wharfs.

XXIV. For dealing in hops.

XXV. For building fhips againft pirates.

XXVI. For buying of navy and victualling ftores for the ufe of the royal navy.

XXVII. For the corn trade.

XXVIII. For drying of malt with hot air.

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1720 XXIX. For improving of malt liquors, four millions.

XXX. For recovering of ſeamen's wages.

XXXI. For working of tin plates, or whited iron plates.—(This manufacture, ſince the year 1720, is brought to great perfection in Monmouthſhire, and elſewhere in England; which before we had entirely from Germany; ours being now alſo of greater beauty and durableneſs than any foreign tinned plates.)

XXXII. For cleaning and paving London ſtreets, two millions.

XXXIII. Weſt's permits for buying and ſelling of ſtocks.

XXXIV. For the making of china ware and delft-ware.

XXXV. For importing a number of large jack-aſſes from Spain: in order to propagate a larger kind of mules in England. For which purpoſe, marſh-lands were treating for, near Woolwich. A clergyman, long ſince dead, being at the head of this bubble.

XXXVI. For trading in human hair.

XXXVII. Ditto in Flanders lace.

XXXVIII. For fatting of hogs.

XXXIX. For preparing tobacco for the making of ſnuff.

XL. For purchaſing or recovering eſtates illegally detained.

XLI. For a more inoffenſive method of emptying or cleanſing of neceſſary-houſes.

XLII. For better curing the Venereal Diſeaſe.

XLIII. A ſubſcription advertiſed, and actually opened, for an undertaking, which ſhall, in due time be revealed.

XLIV. For importing of timber from Germany.

XLV. ———————————— Norway.

XLVI. For a trade to his Majeſty's German dominions.

XLVII. For the exportation of our woollen manufacture, and the importation of copper, braſs, and iron.

XLVIII. For the more effectual making of Colcheſter Bays.

XLIX. For employing the poor. (Lawr. Braddon.)

L. For employing poor artificers, and furniſhing merchants with money.

LI. For lending money to merchants to pay their duties; for purchaſing government ſecurities; for granting annuities for lives; and for building of ſhips to let to freight.

LII. For lending money on ſtocks, annuities, &c.

LIII. Another ditto for lending money at intereſt.

LIV. ——————— the encouragement of the induſtrious.

LV. For making glaſs bottles

LVI. ———— coach glaſſes and looking-glaſſes, two millions.

LVII. ———— pitch, tar, turpentine, &c.

LVIII. ———— pantiles.

LIX. ———— ſoap.

LX. ———————— Joppa and Caſtile ſoap.

LXI. ———————— of Mancheſter ſtuffs, cottons, and tapes.

LXII. For a grand diſpenſary, three millions.

LXIII. For a wheel for a perpetual motion.

LXIV. For lading and entering goods at the cuſtom-houſe.

LXV. For trading in, and improving certain commodities of this kingdom three millions.

LXVI. For

1720 LXVI. For a trade to Barbary, (Jezreel Jones's)

LXVII. For making pasteboard and packing paper.

LXVIII. Another for the paper manufacture.

LXIX. For making starch.

LXX. For building and rebuilding houses throughout England, three millions.

LXXI. For furnishing funerals.

LXXII. Another, for buying and selling lands, and lending money at interest, five millions.

LXXIII Loan offices for encouraging the industrious.

LXXIV. For the clothing, felt, and pantile trades.

LXXV. Insuring and increasing childrens fortunes.

LXXVI. For importing oils and other materials for the woollen manufactures.

LXXVII. For paying pensions to widows, &c. at a small discount, two millions.

LXXVII. For employing poor artificers, furnishing merchants, &c. with watches.

LXXIX. For insuring of masters for the losses sustained by servants, three millions.

LXXX. Timber from Wales.

Although this be the largest collection of the bubbles of this year, yet I am persuaded there are some omitted, which we have not been able to recollect: some may possibly think this collection of them too prolix; yet we apprehended, that to many readers they would be a curiosity; and to posterity an useful memento: and it is even possible, that out of so many abortive ones, amounting, as they do, to considerably above two hundred, some improving genius may hereafter luckily render some of them practicable and useful; as has been the case already with respect to the Tinned-plate Manufacture, &c. Yet of all the above-named numerous projects, only four, properly speaking, exist at present, viz. the two Assurance Companies, by legal new charters; the York-Buildings Company, if it may be said still to exist, and the English Copper Company, its charter being found legal.

Many of the before-mentioned bubbles were indeed so nonsensical and absurd, appearing even from their very titles, as it might be imagined could only draw in the more ignorant part of the people; yet even those had a very considerable run, much money being got and lost by them: and as for the great bulk of them, there were almost incredible numbers of transactions in them daily and hourly, for ready money, and mostly at very advanced prices; as may partly be conceived by those whose highest prices we have set down. Moreover, great numbers of contracts were made for taking many of them at a future time; and also for Puts and Refusals of them, at very high prices; more especially in the York-Buildings Company:—In the Temple Mills, Brass Manufacture:—In the two Copper Companies, &c. in the books of one of which, viz. the Welch Copper Company or Bubble, (long since come to nothing) I have seen some hundreds of contracts registered, according to act of Parliament, at very extravagant prices. And it is much to be lamented, that persons of high rank and dignity placed themselves at the head of many of those even illegal projects. So great was the infatuation of this time.

The fatal writs of *scire facias* at length were issued, on the eighteenth of August, against the following pretended companies, viz. the York-Buildings Company; Lustring Company; the English Copper and Welch Copper Companies; expresly by name; and in general against all other projects promulgated contrary to law; and the crown-lawyers were strictly to prose-

cute

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1720 cute all ſuch as had opened books of ſubſcriptions, and all who ſubſcribed to them, or who made or accepted any transfer in them.

It was apprehended by many thinking people, that this general infatuation might laſt till winter, when it was imagined it would inſenſibly ſubſide of itſelf. But the earneſtneſs of the South Sea Junto to obtain the *ſcire facias* brought it ſooner to an iſſue, though very differently from what they aſſuredly expected. The publication of it, by authority, in the London Gazette, inſtantly ſtruck ſo general a panic amongſt the conductors of all the undertakings, projects, or bubbles, that the ſuddenneſs as well as greatneſs of their fall was amazing. York-Buildings ſtock, for inſtance, fell at once from three hundred to two hundred, and, in two days after, neither it nor the other three undertakings, expreſsly named in the *ſcire facias*, had buyers at any price whatever. The more bareſaced bubbles of all kinds immediately ſhrunk to their original nothing; their projectors ſhut up their offices, and ſuddenly diſappeared; and Exchange-Alley with its coffee-houſes were no longer crowded with adventurers, many of whom having laid out their ſubſtance in thoſe airy purchaſes, now found themſelves to be utterly undone; whilſt, on the other hand, ſuch as had dealt in them to great advantage, became extremely ſhy of owning their gains.

This ſtate of things, how calamitous ſoever it might appear, was but the prelude to the grand calamity which ſoon enſued by the fall of South Sea ſtock and ſubſcriptions. For when the *ſcire facias* came abroad, that ſtock was at eight hundred and fifty per cent. for the opening of the books in Auguſt, including the Midſummer dividend; but, from that time forward, it gradually declined in price, though with many great fluctuations, occaſioned by the various arts and endeavours of the Junto to keep it up; ſome of the particulars whereof have, in part, been already mentioned.

At the opening of their books, on the twenty-ſecond of Auguſt, the ſtock was at eight hundred and twenty per cent. and two days after the directors opened a fourth money ſubſcription, for the purchaſe of one million two hundred and fifty thouſand pounds ſtock, at one thouſand pounds per cent. whereof two hundred pounds, or twenty per cent. was paid down, the remainder to be in four equal half yearly payments of two hundred pounds each, though afterwards altered to eight different payments of one hundred pounds each. This ſubſcription was alſo much crowded, and was compleated in three hours time, and ſold that ſame evening at forty per cent. advance, but this advance was not laſting; for although the managers now lent out large ſums of money, for ſix months, on their ſtock, valuing it only at four hundred per cent. and at ſo moderate an intereſt as four per cent. yet the ſtock could not be kept up to eight hundred. Moreover, the laſt ſubſcribers of the public debts, both irredeemable and redeemable, began to murmur on account of the high prices at which they had ſubſcribed into the ſtock; and alſo becauſe their ſtock was not as yet brought into their names, but artfully poſtponed from time to time. Numbers alſo who had contracted for ſtock for this opening of the books, at much higher prices than the ſtock now ſold at, joined in thoſe complaints, of whom not a few were perſons of high rank and quality: all which was not a little heightened by the numerous ſufferers from the leſſer ſtocks and bubbles. The court of Directors now ſaw their miſtake, but too late, in procuring the *ſcire facias*, but inſtead of healing and moderate meaſures, they, on the thirtieth of Auguſt, in order to raiſe the expectations of men to the higheſt pitch, declared, "That thirty per cent. in money ſhould be the dividend for the "half year which would be due at Chriſtmas following. And," to fill up the meaſure of their extravagance, "that, for the next ſucceeding twelve years, not leſs than fifty per cent.

 "in

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1720 "in money ſhould be the annual dividend on their ſtock." How romantic ſoever this laſt declaration may at preſent ſeem, it was but barely correſponding with the price of their two laſt money ſubſcriptions. Had all the remaining public debts been taken in at the price of the laſt ſubſcription; and had the four ſets of money ſubſcribers duly made good all their payments; and, moreover, had the company been able to ſell all their remaining ſtock at one thouſand per cent. or higher, and that their loans of money had all been duly repaid; upon theſe ſuppoſitions, the company might poſſibly have been able to have made ſo vaſt a dividend, for at leaſt part of the ſaid twelve years ſpace; but that would have been attended with the certain and grievous future loſs of their principal as well as intereſt. However, even this pompous declaration was able only for two days, viz. till the firſt of September, to raiſe the ſtock from ſeven hundred and eighty to eight hundred and ten, from which laſt-named day it gradually ſunk to the eighth of that month, when it was at ſix hundred and eighty: whereby it plainly appeared, that none believed theſe boaſted dividends could prudently and rationally take place. Yet, on the ſaid eighth of September, a general court, crowded with perſons of diſtinction, gave thanks to the court of Directors for their prudent and ſkilful management; and even fulſome commendations were added by ſome members of both Houſes of Parliament. Thoſe panegyriſts then told the directors, "That they had lain aſleep all our domeſtic animoſities, and had reconciled all parties in one common intereſt," *i. e.* money getting, "that they had increaſed the fortunes of the monied men, whilſt they had been the means of doubling the value of land eſtates." It was indeed true, that for a few months, ſuch as had ſold out at high prices, eagerly coveting to purchaſe land with the money, occaſioned lands to be ſold at thirty-five to forty years purchaſe; and ſome for ſomewhat more, as nearly happened at Paris the year before, which might have been warning ſufficient to our ſchemers. Yet, in the ſpace of a few weeks after, thoſe very perſons were for hanging up all the court of Directors. On the twentieth of September, the ſtock was fallen to four hundred and ten, when a general court agreed to reduce the term of the laſt ſubſcribers of the public debts to the price of four hundred per cent. as alſo of the third and fourth money ſubſcriptions from one thouſand to four hundred per cent. It was alſo hinted that the Bank had agreed, or would agree, to take a quantity of their ſtock at four hundred per cent. in payment for three millions ſeven hundred and ſeventy-five thouſand pounds redeemable debt, for which the South Sea Company was to pay off the Bank. This was afterwards called the Bank-contract, the very ſurmize of which had run up South Sea ſtock on the twelfth of that month to ſix hundred and ſeventy-five, which, however, fell the next day to five hundred and fifty. It was afterwards denied to have ever been executed as a legal contract; but had only been diſcourſed of between ſome miniſters of ſtate and the two companies: but although it never took place, it certainly drew in many new purchaſers of ſtock to their great loſs, and, for that reaſon, occaſioned much noiſe and ſcribbling, though long ſince buried in oblivion.

The frailty of the whole South Sea ſcheme now too plainly appearing to all: the ſtock, on the twenty-ninth of September, had fallen to one hundred and ſeventy-five per cent. and their bonds were at twenty-five per cent. diſcount; whereupon there appeared great uneaſineſs and clamour amongſt the monied men, which produced a great run or demand for caſh at the Bank, and a greater one on the private bankers who had generally lent out much of their caſh on South Sea ſtock and ſubſcriptions, in conſequence of which ſeveral very ſubſtantial ones were obliged to ſtop payment for ſome time. And now, juſt when drowning, all people began ſeriouſly to reflect on the calamities brought on people in France, but a few months ſooner,

by

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1720 by the famous Miſſiſſippi ſtock or bubble; and to draw a melancholy parallel; which reflexions, made a few months ſooner, would have ſaved many a worthy family from diſtreſs: great clamour was alſo raiſed on account of contracts at high prices, for the third and fourth money ſubſcriptions performable on delivery of the company's receipts, although no receipts had ever been iſſued for them. At a general court, on the thirtieth of September, the ſuppoſed contract with the Bank was again mentioned as a poſitive agreement, at four hundred per cent. for South Sea ſtock, which now therefore, from one hundred and thirty roſe to three hundred and twenty, but could by no methods be kept ſo high: the faſcination was over, and therefore it fell daily lower, more eſpecially when it was known after all, that the ſuppoſed Bank contract was no reality, but a mere temporary and very unjuſt expedient to quiet the clamours of the people.

At this general court, alſo, the redeemable debts, before taken in at one hundred and five for one hundred, were now reduced to only one hundred; and, inſtead of the former allowance of ſtock at eight hundred per cent. they were now allowed ſtock at four hundred per cent. with the Midſummer dividend of ten per cent. in ſtock.

The ſecond ſubſcription of irredeemables was made equal to the firſt ſubſcription thereof; and the third and fourth money ſubſcriptions were reduced to four hundred per cent. in ſtock: and the ten per cent. in ſtock was allowed to them all.

It was then thought very hard on the Bank, if ever really intended, to be forced into a bargain ſo diſadvantageous, merely for helping their rivals out of the mire. And now, towards the cloſe of this year of marvels, were ſeen the great loſſes of many families of rank, and ſome of great quality, and the utter ruin of merchants before of great figure, and alſo of certain eminent phyſicians, clergy, and lawyers, as well as of many eminent tradeſmen: ſome of whom, after ſo long living in ſplendor, were not able to ſtand the ſhock of poverty and contempt, and died of broken hearts; others withdrew to remote parts of the world, and never returned.

Many expedients were at this time ſtarted, for the relief of the ſufferers by South Sea ſtock; amongſt others, an ingraftment of eighteen millions of that ſtock into the other two great companies, nine millions into the Bank, and nine millions into the Eaſt India ſtock; which occaſioned warm debates in the general courts of thoſe two companies, who at length agreed to it. Yet, although an act of Parliament, of the ſeventh of King George, confirmed it, it was never carried into execution. The South Sea Company alſo, in their diſtreſs, petitioned the King for a grant of that part of the iſland of St. Chriſtopher, in the Weſt Indies, which France had yielded up to us by the treaty of Utrecht; as alſo of the country of Nova Scotia, which, they alleged, would be very much to the advantage of their trade, and to the King's revenue: but although they did not ſucceed therein, they proved ſucceſsful in their applications to have a remiſſion by the legiſlature of the entire ſum they were bound to pay for taking in the national debts: whereby the public was deprived of all the benefits hoped from that ſcheme, excepting the reducing the irredeemable debts into a ſtate of redemption. This remiſſion however was granted; with a proviſo, that from Midſummer 1722, two millions of the company's capital ſtock ſhould be annihilated, for the benefit of the public. Yet, by the act of the ninth of that King, which divided their capital into two equal moieties, theſe two millions capital ſtock were again reſtored to the company from the ſaid term of Midſummer 1722.

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1720 'We muſt again return back to the French ſtock jobbing or bubble affairs of this year 1720. In February, an arret was iſſued for uniting their Bank to their Eaſt India Company, (now eſtabliſhed in perpetuity) as we have already ſeen the latter united to the Miſſiſſippi Company, and the appellation of Miſſiſſippi ſunk in the more general name of the India Company. The arret ſets forth, " That, as this Bank is Royal, the King is bound to make good the full " value of its notes or bills.—And that, as there is a great connexion between the operations " of this Bank and thoſe of the India Company, he commits to the latter the government " and profits of the ſaid Bank during their term of fifty years.—Hereby alſo the King ſells " to the company the fifty millions of India ſtock, belonging to him, for nine hundred mil- " lions:" *i. e.* one thouſand eight hundred per cent.—" The King alſo hereby declares," though it was ſoon after ſeen how far ſuch declarations were to be relied on, " That he will " never draw on the Bank till they have the value firſt brought in to them by his receivers- " general, &c. Nor ſhall the company be obliged to advance any money hereafter for his " ſervice on any pretence whatever, further than what their caſhier ſhall previouſly have of " his Majeſty's in his cuſtody."

This junction of the Bank to the India Company haſtened the downfall of both. It was ſaid, that this bank had already iſſued notes to the amount of one thouſand millions: (or about forty millions ſterling, as the exchange then was,) *i. e.* more paper than all the banks in Europe are able to circulate: for that of Amſterdam is rather a depoſit of credit than a proper circulating Bank. And, to make this Bank the more reputable, the receivers of the King's revenue were directed to take bank notes of their ſub-receivers: and it was further ordered, that all payments of one hundred livres and upwards ſhould be made in Bank notes; ſo that, for a ſhort ſpace, they began to have great credit, in conſequence of which they began to diſcount merchants bills, to lend caſh on jewels, plate, &c. and alſo on mortgages. All which, however, proved too little, under ſo deſpotic a government. For although by ſuch methods, and by altering the nominal value of the coin, &c. they thought to ſupport public credit, yet its bottom being rotten, thoſe compulſive means were highly improper for eſtabliſhing credit, which ever muſt be as free as common air, and plainly argued the want of ſolid ſecurity. For, as nothing but the inviolable ſecurity and freedom of property can ever create a confidence in people for eſtabliſhing a permanent paper credit; who could poſſibly, for any long ſpace, confide in a Bank which had only the bare word of a monarch, who, at his pleaſure, can and frequently does alter the value of private property, and who may at once lay his iron hands on the whole caſh of the Bank.

Old Louis XIV. had tried every means, but the only true one, which human art could deviſe for creating a real public credit in France, from his obſerving what immenſe advantage it had been to England in the wars of King William and Queen Anne, whereby we were become the wonder and envy of the reſt of Europe; yet he could never effect it; becauſe, agreeable to his nature and to his arbitrary government, he falſified the moſt ſolemn of his own edicts whenever his neceſſities pinched him. By another edict, of the ſame month, the King enjoins, that no perſon keep in his houſe or poſſeſſion above five hundred livres in current coin, under the penalty of ten thouſand livres. All which violent methods are declared in thoſe arrets or edicts, to be " for the good of his ſubjects,—to make proviſions " cheap,—to ſupport public credit,—to facilitate circulation,—and to increaſe commerce and " manufactures."

In

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1720 In March a most extraordinary arret of the council of state is issued For fixing the price of the actions of the India Company at nine thousand livres each. Many arrets in these times appeared for the purpose of altering the nominal value of the gold and silver coins of France, sometimes to an higher and at other times to a lower value. All which tended to no other end but the getting rid of the public debts, and filling the King's coffers, without any regard to the immense losses which such proceedings brought on his impoverished subjects.

Yet the India, or Mississippi, stock still continued to advance in price by entire hundreds per cent. even in one day's time: and whilst that stock continued rising, great were the encomiums bestowed on the Duke Regent; and his tool, Mr. Law, was deemed an infallible oracle;—whose scheme of satisfying the public creditors, by giving them the general farm of the revenues, was by his agents said to resemble the Bank of St. George at Genoa; and, like that Bank, would be the staff and stay of the state. A most improper comparison truly, between an establishment in a free republic, and one in the most absolute monarchy of any in Christendom. And when this India stock was got to the price of two thousand and fifty per cent. it produced, for a few months, the following strange paradoxical effects in France, viz.

I. The state bills, which before had been at sixty-three per cent. discount, were then got up to twenty per cent. above par.

II. Thus the King got rid of one thousand five hundred millions of public debts, in a few weeks, without paying any money.

III. By remitting of certain burdensome taxes on the people, the royal revenue had been increased some millions.

The French King at this time absolutely prohibits all the ecclesiastical communities and hospitals of France from putting out their money at interest any-where but in India stock. Notwithstanding all which, and many other extraordinary measures, the immenseness of its capital at length could not fail to bring down its price: for the prevention of which event various means were tried, such as, the King's giving that company the sole property of the island named Belleisle, on the south west coast of Bretagne, since conquered by his Britannic Majesty, and afterwards the trade to the isle of Hispaniola, &c.

The stock of the India Company still fluctuating, Mr. Law caused several pamphlets to be published, for illustrating its vast benefits to the proprietors of it, and the impossibility of the King's ever doing it any prejudice. What followed so very soon after puts one in mind of Ben Johnson's comedy of Bartholomew Fair, where, for the more securely promoting the trade of cut-purses, the chief of their gang gets on a stool, and sings a ballad against cut-purses.

For, on the twenty-first of May, the King's fatal arret comes out, by which, under pretence of his having reduced the value of his coin, it was declared necessary to reduce the nominal value of his Bank notes and the India stock, viz. the former to one half, and the latter from nine thousand livres per action to five thousand livres. It is easy to conceive the calamity which this reduction produced throughout France. The Bank notes instantly lost their currency. Mr. Hutcheson, an author of credit, observes, that the French crown in Bank-money, which, in September 1719, was worth thirty-pence sterling in exchange to London, was now worth about three-pence payable in French Bank bills. To prevent tumults, the guards are placed every-where. The Parliament remonstrates to the King the fatal consequences hereof; which occasioned the following arret, viz. "The King being informed, that "his reduction of Bank bills has had an effect quite contrary to his intentions, and has pro-

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1720 " duced a general confusion in commerce: and being desirous to favour the circulation of the " said Bank bills, for the convenience of such as give or who shall take them in payment: " and, having heard the report of the Sieur Law, he has ordained, that Bank bills be current " on the same footing as before the above arret; which he hereby revokes."

On the twenty-ninth of May, however, Mr. Law found it prudent to resign his office of Comptroller-General of the Finances, by the interposition of the Parliament of Paris with the Duke of Orleans, Regent: whereupon it was thought needful to allow him two Swiss officers as his guard; and commissaries were appointed to inspect his accounts. Several other means were now used to keep up the tottering tumbling public credit. And, as many of the state creditors had lately been paid off with Bank notes, which were now become troublesome to circulate, by reason of their vast quantity, these were now taken in by a new subscription of one thousand millions on the town-house of Paris, at two and a half per cent. or twenty-five millions of annuities.

And, for lessening the number of actions in the India Company, the King gives up one hundred millions which belonged to him, and the company also sunk three hundred millions which they held in their corporate capacity. But, on the other hand, in order to make a dividend to the proprietors of three per cent. on the nominal value of twelve thousand livres per share, they make a sort of call of three thousand livres per share, payable in six months.

Various other sleight-of-hand tricks were now put in practice, to hoodwink the people, and, if possible, to retrieve their good opinion of India stock, upon which a new company of insurance was now engrafted for that end: and every three or four days arrets came out, contradicting, repealing, or altering the preceding ones; so that no fewer than ten such came out during the month of June in this year; the substance whereof, and of the proceedings of France for three years past, relating to their India or Mississippi trade and company, and their Royal Bank, we find principally in a large collection of arrets, memorials, &c. published at Paris, in the year 1720, by authority, in two quarto volumes, which we have abridged as much as possible; from whence a general knowledge may in part be gathered of that madness in France, which had in this year infected all the other monied countries of Europe.

The cruel reduction of the value of French bank-notes, the reductions of their India stock, and the consequent general confusion; the numberless alterations, within the space of a few months, in the nominal value of the coin of France;—all these obliged wise and provident persons to send their effects into other countries, lest they should be gradually reduced to nothing. For preventing thereof, an ordonnance comes out on the twentieth of June, by which the King enjoins all his subjects to bring back their effects, upon pain of forfeiting double the value; and, on like forfeiture, strictly enjoining them not to invest their money in the stocks of foreign companies:—Than which ordonnance, nothing, surely, could more effectually alarm their people.

Merchants and others now refusing to take these bank-notes in payments, an arret came out, prohibiting any person whatever from refusing them, under forfeiture of double the value. Yet, on that same day, the run or demand on the bank was so great, that another ordonnance of the King came out, importing, " That he being informed of the tumult at the Bank, " upon account of paying their notes, he has thought fit to suspend the payment of the said " notes till further orders."—There was not cash in the Bank to pay the fiftieth part of them. " Strictly forbidding all persons whatever from meeting or assembling together, on any pre- " tence whatever." And guards were placed, on this lamentable occasion, at several public

 places

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1720 places in Paris, where merchants and others concerned in India ſtock, bank-notes, and bills of exchange, uſed to aſſemble in great numbers, whereby they were diſperſed.

In July many arrets came abroad, for raiſing the fallen credit of India ſtock, though to no purpoſe. And, on the thirtieth, an arret appears for again raiſing the nominal value of the French coin; and, for the leſſening the number of bank-notes, ſix hundred millions thereof were now turned into India ſtock, at nine thouſand livres per ſhare. And although this was but an airy manner of payment, it was however eſtemed better than bank-notes, which had no currency at all. Other great ſums in bank-notes were erected into annuities, at two per cent. per annum, and into life annuities, at five per cent.

On the firſt of September, the Duke Regent of France directed to be publiſhed,

Firſt, A general ſtate of the public debts of France at the death of King Louis XIV. amounting to upwards of one thouſand nine hundred and ſeventy-ſeven millions of livres, and their intereſt to very near ninety millions per annum.

Secondly, "Inſtead of which ſum of almoſt two thouſand millions," or near one hundred millions ſterling, "the King," ſays this ſtate, "now owes ſcarcely three hundred and forty "millions."

N. B. Of the ſaid firſt-named vaſt debt, the India Company has paid off ſix hundred millions, by diſcharging ſo many bank-notes, which the King muſt have otherwiſe paid or ſunk. And that bank was thereby entirely at an end, and ſhut up. The reſt, by different chicaneries between the Regent and Law, were wiped off.

That general ſtate further acquaints the public, "That ſince the Duke of Orleans's acceſſion "to the Regency, the royal finances have been augmented above eighty-three millions of "livres per annum. And yet," believe it who can, "the people have, within that time, "been eaſed of taxes or impoſts to the amount of fifty-two millions per annum."—Be this as it may, he certainly got rid of ſo much national debt, to the ruin of thouſands of families, by means before-mentioned.

We ſhall only add, concerning the ſaid vaſt French India capital ſtock, that it gradually dwindled in value till it ſettled in their preſent Eaſt India Company, which, by dint of application, &c. has ſince made ſo great a figure, as well in India as in Europe, ſo as greatly to interfere with the intereſts of the other European nations trading to the Eaſt Indies. And that the Regent's chief inſtrument, Law, being now obliged to leave France, died in obſcurity, without having acquired any thing very conſiderable for himſelf, although he had it once in his power to have been the richeſt ſubject in Chriſtendom.

1721 We now return to conſider further the unfortunate ſituation of the proprietors of the Britiſh national debts, ſubſcribed into the South Sea Company in the year 1720, and of the purchaſers of South Sea ſtock by money ſubſcriptions, at high prices. Towards the cloſe of that year, theſe began clearly to perceive the ſad ſtate they were reduced to by their own credulity, as well as by other cauſes already related; and that all the ſchemes propoſed for raiſing the ſtock to its former high price were perfectly viſionary. Their principal reſource now was, by the aſſiſtance of the legiſlature, to obtain an equal or fair diſtribution amongſt them of the undivided South Sea ſtock, as far as that would go; yet even that was attended with many difficulties, which it is unneceſſary to enlarge on at this diſtance of time. The redeemable creditors who had ſubſcribed, and alſo the money ſubſcribers, were in a ſad way. Nevertheleſs, to enter on all their reaſonings, as alſo on thoſe of the long annuity proprietors, would require more room than is conſiſtent with our general ſcope; as the pieces publiſhed on that occaſion,

which

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1721 which we have bound up, consist of many considerable volumes, of several sizes. We shall therefore content ourselves with first exhibiting a brief state of the whole South Sea capital stock, as it stood at Christmas 1720, viz.

		£.	s.	d.
I. The old capital stock before Midsummer 1720	—	11,746,844	8	10
II. The stock of the irredeemable debts subscribed	—	12,069,349	2	6
III. The stock of the redeemable debts subscribed	—	13,986,690	2	8
Total South Sea stock at Christmas 1720	— —	37,802,883	14	0

In which, however, a small mistake of four hundred pounds was afterwards found, whereby its true amount was thirty-seven millions eight hundred and two thousand four hundred and eighty-theee pounds fourteen shillings.

And next, we shall, as briefly as possible, set down the quantity of stock allowed at different times, to the several species of new proprietors of South Sea stock, in consequence of the very badly executed scheme we are now treating of, viz.

	£.	s.	d.
I. To the redeemable proprietors, stock was at first allowed them at eight hundred per cent. but afterwards reduced to four hundred: so that one hundred pounds redeemable debt had in South Sea stock twenty-five pounds; to which add the Midsummer ten per cent. is — — — —	27	10	0
2. The first additional third, by act of Parliament, the thirty-first of July, 1721	9	3	4
3. The second additional third, by general court, September the first, 1721	12	4	5
	48	17	9
4. The addition of a sixteenth part, by general court, twelfth of April, 1723	3	1	1
Total South Sea stock allowed for one hundred pounds redeemables subscribed	51	18	10
II. The four money subscriptions, though at first at different prices, had at length stock allowed them at four hundred per cent. and had afterwards the very same several additions as the redeemable debts; so that for every one hundred pounds they paid down, they were in all allowed — —	51	18	10

By which it will appear, that these two species had much harder terms than any of the other proprietors.

	£.	s.	d.
III. The irredeemable debts subscribed were, in all, allowed, viz. long annuities, in the first subscription had, for every one hundred pounds per ann. seven hundred pounds South Sea stock; and with ten per cent. dividend in stock for Midsummer 1720, made seven hundred and seventy pounds; which, with two or three of the additions made to the redeemables, as before exhibited, viz. the second additional one-third, and the additional one-sixteenth, made their stock amount to — — — — —	1,090	16	8
And they had, at subscribing, in bonds and money —	575	0	0
Total stock and money in the first subscription — —	1,665	16	8

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	£.	s.	d.
In the ſecond ſubſcription of thoſe ſame long annuities they were at firſt allowed ſtock at eight hundred per cent. which was afterwards reduced to four hundred per cent. and with the Midſummer ten per cent. amounted to	830	0	0
And the legiſlature having directed this ſecond ſubſcription to be made equal to the firſt ſubſcription, valuing the ſtock at one hundred and fifty per cent. that addition in ſtock amounted to — — —	203	6	8
	1,083	6	8
And the two above-named additions, as made to the firſt ſubſcription, in ſtock, amounted to — — — —	451	7	8
Total ſtock allowed for one hundred pounds per annum in the ſecond ſubſcription; but no bonds nor money was given on it —	1,543	14	4
The ninety-eight pounds per annum annuities, called fourteen per cents. had in the firſt ſubſcription ſeven hundred pounds ſtock allowed them, which, with all the before-named additions, amounted to — —	1,090	16	8
And in bonds and money — — — —	511	0	0
Total ſtock and money for ninety-eight pounds per ann. firſt ſubſcription,	1,601	16	8
And their ſecond ſubſcription in ſtock, with the ſame additions, but no bond nor money — — — —	1,474	5	6
The firſt ſubſcription of the nine per cents. had, in all, for every ninety pounds per annum in ſtock — — — —	545	8	4
And in bonds and money — — — —	217	10	0
Total for ninety pounds per annum, in the firſt ſubſcription —	762	18	4
And their ſecond ſubſcription had ſix hundred and ninty-nine pounds ſeven ſhillings and two-pence ſtock, and two pounds, called odd money, in caſh.			
For the prize tickets of lottery 1710, one hundred pounds per annum, firſt ſubſcription, had in all in South Sea ſtock — —	623	6	8
And in bonds and money — — — —	200	0	0
Total in the firſt ſubſcription — — —	823	6	8
And their ſecond ſubſcription had in all ſeven hundred and fifty-five pounds eleven ſhillings ſtock only.			
The blank tickets of lottery 1710 had for every ninety-eight pounds per annum — — — — — —	545	8	4
And in bonds and money — — — —	353	10	0
Total ſtock and money in the firſt ſubſcription — —	898	18	4

		£.	s.	d.
1720	And their second subscription had (in stock) — — —	827	16	0
	And in odd money — — — — —	2	0	0
	Total second subscription — — — —	829	16	

Thus it plainly appeared, that all the irredeemable debts subscribed were put upon a much better footing than the redeemable ones, and the money subscribers; who certainly were very hardly used.

IV. The old capital stock before Midsummer 1720 had, beyond all other species of proprietors, the very best terms granted to them, viz. the ten per cent. dividend for Midsummer 1720: likewise the additional third, or thirty-three pounds six shillings and eight-pence per cent. to the stock, by the general court on the first of September 1721; also the additional one-sixteenth part, or six pounds five shillings per cent. on the twelfth of April 1723: whereby one hundred pounds of the old South Sea proprietors stock was increased, at Midsummer 1723, to one hundred and fifty-five pounds sixteen shillings and eight-pence.

And thus at length men were forced to sit down, though not contented, with their respective losses; although a secret committee of the House of Commons, in the beginning of this year 1721, made several large reports against the conduct of the directors, and indirectly against others in very high stations, some of whom were expresly included in the laws made for mulcting those directors, and for sequestering their estates, and those of some of their principal servants, more especially their treasurer, in whose breast many important secrets were by the croud supposed to be lodged, particularly against a noble lord then in power, who nevertheless was well known to be hitherto no way inclined to avarice. Indeed, the losses of individuals, and the writings of the party scriblers, occasioned many people at that time to believe, that the scheme itself contained secrets of very great importance. Bribery, corruption, and robbing of the public, were fashionable words at this time, and helped to fill up pamphlets and newspapers: and many of those who had very lately most obsequiously courted and shamefully flattered the unhappy directors, were now the loudest for the most severe punishments. It was, however, but too true that the directors, or rather the junto of managers, in order to make their scheme go more easily down, made considerable largesses, at the company's cost, to many persons of influence; and that in the execution of their whole scheme they had much too great a latitude allowed them.—That the fictitious sale of stock, prior to the passing of the act of Parliament:—Their lending out above eleven millions of the company's money on stock and subscriptions, without an adequate security:—Their taking so enormous a leap from four hundred to one thousand per cent. in the price of their stock for the third and fourth money subscriptions.—Their making private additions to the money subscriptions, for the benefit of friends; and the suffering such friends to withdraw those subscriptions on the fall of stock.—Their giving away large sums of the company's money for the future Refusal of stock at high prices, in order to raise it to those prices:—Their laying out great sums of the company's money, for the buying up of stock for the same end:—Their making many alterations, additions, and erasements, in sums and names on the said loans, &c. were all utterly unjustifiable. Yet, with respect to the bulk of the Ministry and Parliament, there is some reason to think, that their listening to the proposals of the South Sea Directors proceeded purely from a desire of acquiring reputation by getting rid of part of our national burdens;

though,

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1720 though, as already observed, neither that nor any other scheme, inconsistent with the strictest national faith, ought to be countenanced.

This was, we apprehend, the real state of that whole affair, notwithstanding the idle clamours of many who pretended to find out miraculous and occult mysteries in it. Avarice had at that time deeply infected persons of all ranks, which contributed not a little to favour the South Sea managers, and to forward their own subsequent losses. Several of the directors themselves were so far innocent as to be found poorer at the breaking up of the scheme than when it began; and many of them had the best characters till that infatuation; nay, the inventory of all their estates, exclusive of antecedent settlements, did not much exceed a million of money; which among so many persons was, on an average, little more than thirty thousand pounds each.

Many foreigners possessing, at that time, property in our funds were considerable losers by the South Sea scheme, by which a balance, though not a very reputable one, was said to be in our favour, nationally speaking. The laudable canton of Bern is however said to have been a very considerable gainer, in their public capacity, by this scheme. The amount of all the value of the contracts registered at the South Sea House, pursuant to act of Parliament, was nine millions nine hundred and seventeen thousand eight hundred and sixty-two pounds: on which there was two millions and upwards paid down, and the balance remaining due thereon was seven millions eight hundred and eighty-four thousand one hundred and thirty-seven pounds, beside the many contracts never registered; and the many others made on account of the lesser stocks and bubbles, whose nominal amount was then guessed by observing people, when at their highest prices, to exceed three hundred millions. And supposing all the increased South Sea capital of thirty-seven millions eight hundred and two thousand eight hundred and eighty-three pounds Fourteen shillings to have been negociated at one thousand per cent. the amount would have been three hundred and eighty millions more. If, moreover, all the entire Bank and East India capitals had been negociated at their then advanced prices, that would have amounted to twenty-eight and a half millions more. The whole amounts to above seven hundred millions. Yet, as this last supposition is scarcely to be admitted, we shall rather adhere to our former supposition of five hundred millions being nearer to the nominal value of them all.

The unaccountable frenzy in stocks and projects of this year 1720 may by some be thought to have taken up too much room in this work: but we are persuaded that others, of superior judgment, will approve of the perpetuating, in so large a work, the remembrance thereof, as a warning to after ages.

We shall sum up every thing which relates to the deceitful arts of raising South Sea stock by new and extravagant high subscriptions, by a sensible, familiar, and most plain simile, written at this time by that ingenious gentleman Archibald Hutcheson, Esquire, long since dead, whose fair and candid calculations on this subject, and on our general national debts, make up a moderate folio volume, viz.

" A, having one hundred pounds stock in trade, though pretty much in debt, gives it out
" to be worth three hundred pounds, on account of many privileges and advantages to which
" he is entitled. B, relying on A's great wisdom and integrity, sues to be admitted partner
" on those terms, and accordingly brings three hundred pounds into the partnership. The
" trade being afterwards given out or discovered to be very improving, C comes in at five
" hundred pounds; and afterwards D, at one thousand one hundred pounds. And the capital

 " is

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1720 " is then compleated to two thousand pounds. If the partnership had gone no farther than " A and B, then A had got and B had lost one hundred pounds. If it had stopped at C, then " A had got and C had lost two hundred pounds; and B had been as he was before: but D " also coming in, A gains four hundred pounds, and B two hundred pounds; and C neither " gains nor loses: but D loses six hundred pounds. Indeed, if A could shew that the said " capital was intrinsically worth four thousand four hundred pounds, there would be no " harm done to D; and B and C would have been obliged to him. But if the capital at first " was worth but one hundred pounds, and increased only by the subsequent partnerships, it " must then be acknowledged, that B and C have been imposed on in their turns, and that " unfortunate thoughtless D paid the piper."

This simile is too obvious to need explanation. A plainly representing the original South Sea capital, as B and C do the first and second subscriptions for stock, and D the third and fourth subscriptions. This came not out till the close of the year 1720, when every one too late saw the general deception: but we remember many who were then of opinion, that had it been published before the two shameful subscriptions at each one thousand pounds per cent. had been resolved on, it might have prevented so wild a measure.

The infection of new projects communicated itself in that same year of wonders into the cool and phlegmatic country of Holland, where several new subscriptions for insurances of ships, merchandize, &c. were set on foot, not only in their greater cities, but even in some inconsiderable ones. Those idle subscriptions, however, were not carried to any great and prejudicial height amongst so wary a people, who soon returned to their proper vocations.

We had in that same year a seemingly judicious view of the iron manufacture of England, from a state of it published by Mr. William Wood, who was then a great iron proprietor. He observes very justly, " That the iron manufacture is, next to the woollen manufacture, " the most considerable of all others in this nation.—That we then used about thirty thou- " sand tons of iron per annum: of which, for want of a sufficient supply of cord-wood, we " are forced to buy of our neighbours about twenty thousand tons, with ready money; " which, at ten pounds per ton, is two hundred thousand pounds per annum.—That we " have iron-stone enough, and may be able to supply ourselves with cord wood to make the " greatest part of, if not all, the iron we want, by planting and raising of copices on waste " and other lands of small value, and reserving a certain quantity of acres to grow for timber- " trees." Yet, as all this was said with a view to introduce the account of his iron partnership, amongst the projects or bubbles of that year, it must be read with caution. Mr. Wood had then a lease of all the mines on the crown lands of thirty-nine counties, whose furnaces were well supplied with pit coal;—some of the best iron works in the kingdom;—several forges for refining and drawing iron out into bars; also a slitting mill for rolling, slitting, and preparing the iron for its several uses in manufacture;—furnaces for making pig-iron, pots, rails, and banisters, backs and hearths for chimnies, and all other sorts of cast-iron, both with charcoal and pit coal. This is the same William Wood who afterwards unfortunately undertook the coinage of copper halfpence for the kingdom of Ireland, which he executed in so unfair a manner as occasioned those halfpence being called in, and his being totally discarded in that country, after much noise about it.

By an act of the Parliament of Great Britain of the said sixth year of King George the First, For laying a Duty (of six pence per ounce) upon Wrought Plate, &c. it was enacted, " That " whereas it is found by experience, that silver plate made according to the old standard of

" eleven

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1720 " eleven ounces and two penny weights of fine silver, (which was altered to eleven ounces " ten penny weights by the eighth of King William, cap. vii.) are more serviceable and dur- " able than those made by the last named standard. Wherefore the said old sterling standard, " of eleven ounces two penny weights of fine silver in a pound weight troy, is hereby restored."

By the same statute also, it was made felony to counterfeit the receipts for subscriptions, and also, of the dividend warrants of the South Sea Company, or any endorsements thereon.

In the same famous year 1720, the Turkey Company made a most reasonable complaint to Parliament, against some part of the English trade to Italy, as then managed by our Italian merchants: an act therefore of the sixth of King George was passed, For prohibiting the importation of Raw Silk and Mohair Yarn of the Product or Manufacture of Asia, from any Ports or Places in the Streights or Levant Seas, except from such Ports or Places as are within the Dominions of the Grand Seignior. It seems our Italian merchants at Leghorn frequently purchased of the French those goods, which they had brought from Turkey, in return for French woollen goods sent to Turkey; thereby encouraging the French woollen manufacture, and discouraging our own. In this application the Turkey Company declare, that they consisted of two hundred members, all of whom traded separately for themselves, and buy and sell without limitation.

We have an authentic view of the strength of the royal navy of Great Britain in this year 1720, in Secretary Burchet's Naval History, published in this year, viz.

NUMBER OF GUNS.	NUMBER OF SHIPS.	
Of 100	7	125 of the line of battle.
— 90	13	
— 80	16	
— 70	23	
— 60	19	
— 50	47	
— 40	23	
— 30	9	
— 20	25	
Total	182 Ships.	

Which will require nine thousand nine hundred and forty guns, exclusive of those necessary for others of lesser dimensions; as fire-ships, bomb-vessels, store-ships, sloops, yatchs, hoys, &c. which, he says, amounted to fifty more. We may safely add, that since that period, our royal navy is greatly increased, as well in bulk and construction, as in their number and strength.

The favourite project of France, in respect to North America, being to join their colony of Canada to that of Louisiana, and also to obtain a port in the ocean; they, for those ends, began very early after the treaty of Utrecht, to extend their limits on that continent; and although the fifteenth article of that peace had absolutely excluded them from molesting or encroaching on the five Indian nations of the Iroquois, as being peculiarly subject to the British crown; yet, in this same year 1720, they seized on the most important pass of Niagara, and fortified the same, whereby they were the better able to command the Lakes, and to form the plan for extending their power to the Ohio River, and to carry their chain of forts and settlements

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1720 ments from thence down to the Miſſiſippi River, and this fort they held till the year 1759. In the mean time, they had, by many arts, debauched thoſe five Indian nations ſo far, that they were brought to murder our people, in great numbers, who were ſettled among them.

In a treaty of peace, concluded in this year between Denmark and Sweden, at Frederickſtadt, under the mediation of George the Firſt, King of Great Britain, it was ſtipulated, that upon the crown of Denmark's relinquiſhing all former pretenſions to the crown of Sweden, the ſhips of Sweden in paſſing the Sound, or either of the two Belts, ſhould thenceforth pay to Denmark the ſame toll as is paid by Great Britain and the United Netherlands; Sweden thereby renouncing all exemption from the ſaid toll. So that by this treaty, there was thenceforth to be no longer any difference of nations in paſſing into or returning from the Baltic; all paying the ſame toll for ſhips and cargoes.

1721 Whilſt Archangel was the only ſtaple port for the Ruſſian naval commerce, the foreign merchants uſually reſided at Moſcow, and only travelled from thence in the ſummer ſeaſon to Archangel, where they had their warehouſes and factors: this method continued till the year 1721, when by order of the Czar, Peter the Great, the ſeat of commerce was transferred from Archangel to his new emporium of Peterſburg, now grown a very conſiderable city, which obliged the foreign traders to remove their factories to Peterſburg.

According to the author of a quarto pamphlet, publiſhed (by the then well-known and before named Mr. William Wood) in the year 1721, entitled, The State of the Copper and Braſs Manufactures in Great Britain; about thirty thouſand people were then ſuppoſed to ſubſiſt by thoſe manufactures.—He alſo remarks, that the ſaid metals were refined by pit coal alone. "We have" ſays he, "plenty of *lapis calaminaris* for making of braſs.—Copper ore is found "in many counties of England, Wales, and Scotland: and this nation could ſupply itſelf "with copper and braſs, of its own produce, ſufficient for all occaſions, if ſuch duties were "laid on foreign copper and braſs as would diſcourage their importation, and at the ſame time "encourage the ſale of our own metal."

After all the ſtir without doors, by pamphlets and newſpapers, and within doors by a ſecret committee of Parliament, all that could be done for the South Sea Company, was,

Firſt, By an act of Parliament of the ſeventh of King George, in the year 1721, To reſtrain their Sub and Deputy Governors, and Directors, Treaſurer, and Accountant, (this laſt was afterwards left out of the bill) from going out of the Kingdom,—and for diſcovering their Eſtates.

Secondly, By another act of the ſame year, They were diſabled from ever after enjoying the ſaid Offices, &c.

Thirdly, Another of the ſaid year was, For raiſing Money on their Eſtates, and on thoſe Mr. Aiſlabie and Mr. Craggs, ſenior, towards making good the loſſes ſuſtained by their miſmanagement in the year 1720; out of which, however, thoſe perſons were allowed certain ſums for their maintenance.

Fourthly, By another act of the ſame year, For making ſeveral Proviſions to reſtore the Public Credit, which ſuffers by the Frauds and Miſmanagements of the late Directors of the South Sea Company and others; (beſide what we have already related, of remitting to that company all the benefit the public was to have reaped by the company's privilege of taking in the public debts, and the putting the redeemables and the four money ſubſcriptions on an equal footing) the borrowers on ſtock and ſubſcriptions in that year, were hereby to be releaſed,

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1721 leased, on paying ten per cent. to the company; from which ten per cent. they were afterwards also released.

By the same act also, all unperformed contracts for any kind of stocks and subscriptions, made during the year 1720, were directed to be registered by a fixed time, and in the mean time all law-suits thereon were to remain suspended; which gave immediate ease to very many persons concerned therein. By this act likewise, two millions of the company's capital was to be sunk from Midsummer 1722, for the benefit of the public. And the secret committee, after a further report, of very little use or consequence, broke off all the proposed enquiries.

On the first of September, in this same year, the additional thirty-three pounds six shillings and eight-pence per cent. in stock, was made to the several proprietors already mentioned.

Peace was, in this same year 1721, concluded at Madrid on the thirteenth of June, between Great Britain and Spain, by which the peace of Utrecht was in general confirmed, and the South Sea Company was restored to the exercise of the Assiento contract for negroes, &c. and the full value of all that had been seized, was stipulated to be restored to that company. The ancient limits of both nations in America were confirmed, and the freedom of the cod fishery at Newfoundland.

In consequence of which peace, the South Sea Company, in the same year, sent out their great and rich annual ship to the Spanish West Indies, *i. e.* to Porto Bello and Carthagena; which, however, from many and various causes, did not answer the great hopes at first conceived of that voyage. The difficulties perpetually started by the court of Madrid, the avarice of the company's own servants, as well as that of the Spanish officers in America, were much more the occasion of this voyage's not proving advantageous, than any want of prudent conceit in the plan or design of it.

In this same year 1721, a final or definitive treaty of peace was concluded between Sweden and Russia: whereby the former was obliged to confirm or yield to Russia, what had been before conquered, the very best territory or jewel of the Swedish crown, viz. Livonia, together with Esthonia, Ingria, Carelia, and the town of Wyburg, with the isles of Oesel, Dragoe, and Moen. The Czar, on the other side, restored a part of Finland to Sweden, and also agreed to pay her two millions of rix-dollars, and that the Swedes should be permitted annually to buy, custom free, corn to the amount of fifty thousand rubles, at Riga, Revel, and Wyburg.—In point of commerce, also, the Swedes were to be treated as the most favoured nation.

This treaty was a severe check to the commerce, and a very considerable diminution of the territory and power of Sweden, which she has never since been able to regain.

An attempt was made, this same year, in the Parliament of Ireland, for erecting a public bank in that kingdom: but it was, in effect, rejected, as it was said, purely for want of a sufficient currency of cash for circulating of bank notes there; and perhaps for some other more secret reasons.—See the year 1723.

The wear of printed Indian calicoes in Britain, both in apparel and houshold furniture, was at this time become so universal, as to be a great detriment and obstruction to both the woollen and silk manufactures of the kingdom. This had occasioned several riots and tumults of the weavers in London, &c. It was therefore found necessary to redress a grievance in which so many thousand families were greatly interested. An act of Parliament was therefore passed, in

this

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1721 this seventh year of King George the First, cap. vii. To preserve and encourage the Woollen and Silk Manufactures, &c. which absolutely prohibited the wear thereof, under the penalty of five pounds for each offence on the wearer, and of twenty pounds on the seller.

And by an act of this same year, cap. xii. For employing the Manufacturers, and encouraging the Consumption of Raw Silk and Mohair Yarn: the wearing of buttons or button-holes made of cloth or other stuff, was absolutely prohibited.

The Ostenders still persisting to trade to the East Indies, the British Parliament, in this same year, passed an act, cap. xx. For the further preventing his Majesty's Subjects from trading to the East Indies under foreign Commissions, &c. "Prohibiting the importation of tea from "any part of Europe, over and above all former restraints laid on British subjects from resort-"ing or trading to the East Indies under foreign commissions, with several other new additional "restraints and penalties." And, by the Dutch placarts, it was made death for any of their subjects to be concerned therein.

In this same year, by an act of the British Parliament, For raising a sum not exceeding five hundred thousand pounds, charged on the Civil List Revenue, &c. there is a clause for discharging the two Assurance Companies, established by charters in the year 1720, viz. the Royal Exchange and the London Assurance Companies, from so much of the sum of three hundred thousand pounds, which each of them was obliged to pay to the King's use, as now remained unpaid; in consideration of the difficulties which those two companies laboured under.

The second volume, p. 220, of the British Merchant, re-published in this year 1721, makes the increase of the British silk manufacture to amount to seven hundred thousand per annum in value more than it was at the revolution, in the year 1688; we importing, till that period, annually from France, to the value of five hundred thousand pounds, in wrought silks of all kinds.

He adds, what was also well known, "That, till then, there was little else made in Eng-"land but brown paper; whereas now there are two-thirds of all the white paper we use made "at home.

The increase of the French fishery on the Banks of Newfoundland, and in the neighbouring parts, was so great about this time, that the second volume of the British Merchant, p. 290, alleges they employed yearly upwards of four hundred sail of ships therein, from St. Malo, Granville, Rochelle, St. Martin's, Bayonne, St. Jean de Luz, Sibour, &c. Whereby they not only now supplied themselves entirely with fish, which they formerly had from England, but likewise rival us much in the fish trade to Spain and Italy.

According to a Danish author, and zealous missionary to Old Greenland (Mr. Egede) the Greenland Company of Bergen in Norway, now sent out a colony to re-settle Old Greenland, after a large Norwegian colony had been destroyed or otherwise lost in that country, some hundreds of years before, as we have already related under the year 1348. Mr. Egede, who went with this new colony relates, that they found there some marks of old habitations, and of ancient tillage. He thinks that the old Norwegian colony must have been destroyed by the savage natives, or by an unusual pestilence; and that the country was forgotten by the Danes and Norwegians till the year 1619, when, as we have also related, some fruitless attempts were made from Copenhagen, to find out the country where that old colony had been settled.

3 After

A. D. 1721 After all, it is to be much doubted whether there be commercial materials in that most cold and barren country, sufficient to induce any European nation to be at much expence in making a settlement there; where certain peltry and fish oil are probably its only product; and as the country is so very thin of inhabitants, and those too very miserable ones, we hear nothing further since, of the success of that fresh attempt for colonizing in it till the year 1736.

A list of ships employed in this year 1721, in the whale fishery to Greenland and Davis's Streights, viz.

	Ships.
From several parts of Holland, — — —	251
From Hamburg, — — — —	55
From Bremen, — — — —	24
From the ports in the Bay of Biscay, — —	20
From Bergen in Norway, — — —	5
Total,	355

This list, which was published at London at this time, probably, in part, encouraged the new South Sea court of directors to propose a whale fishery to their general courts, which however they did not finally agree to till three years after.

1722 In a British act of Parliament of the eighth year of King George the First, For giving further Encouragement for the Importation of naval Stores, &c. its preamble declares,

I. "That, in consequence of former legal encouragements, it is found by experience, that "great quantities of good and merchantable pitch and tar have been imported from the British "plantations in America, which have been found useful for the service of his Majesty's navy; "and that it is necessary to give further encouragement therein; so as the tar be clean and "merchantable, as herein further directed, for making of cordage.

II. "Moreover, it being probable, that the owners of large tracts of land in America and "in Scotland, lying near the sea or on navigable rivers, would be induced to sow the same "with hemp, if further encouragement were given for that purpose: it was therefore enacted, "that the premium of six pounds per ton of hemp, so raised and imported, be further con"tinued for sixteen years, and shall be free of all customs whatever.

III. "And whereas great quantities of wood and timber, and of the goods commonly "called lumber," of many several sorts of wood therein enumerated, "have usually been "imported into this kingdom, from foreign countries, at excessive prices, whereby foreign"ers have found opportunities to export the coin of the kingdom: and it is well known, "that the said commodities, being of the growth and product of the British plantations in "America, may be furnished from thence; for encouragement thereof it was enacted, that "the said timber goods be exported, duty free, from the said plantations, for ninety-one "years to come: excepting masts, yards, and bowsprits, touching which, duties and pre"miums are ascertained by former acts in that behalf."

"The commissioners of the navy shall have the pre-emption or refusal of the above-named "hemp, for twenty days after landing, for the use of the navy royal.

IV. "The laws already made for the preservation of white pine trees, in his Majesty's co"lonies in America, for the masting of the royal navy, being found insufficient, it was now "enacted, that no person shall presume to cut, fell, or destroy any white pine trees in the

1722 "American provinces, named in former acts of Parliament," to which Nova Scotia was now added, " without the King's licence first obtained, under the several penalties for the various " sized trees herein specified."

In this year, according to Keysler's Travels, the famous fine porcelain of Saxony was brought to perfection: being the invention of one Bottcher, a chymist, who died in the year 1719. But he carried it no further than to the white sort: the art of making brown and blue porcelain not being found out till this year. This able author adds, that the invention of the Saxon porcelain was owing to alchymy.

In the same year, Captain Scroggs, from Churchill River fort in Hudson's Bay, sailed upon the discovery of a north-west passage, from that Bay to China, &c. as far as latitude sixty-four degrees, fifty-six minutes, where, as he reported, the land fell off to the southward of the west: such of his people as went up to the top of a mountain, reported, that they saw nothing to obstruct their going further. This was a lame account, (says Mr. Ellis's voyage, in the years 1746-7,) for why then did he not proceed?

Copper ore having been a few years before this time found in the British American province of New York; it was now, by an act of the eighth year of King George the First, cap. xviii. To prevent the clandestine Running of Goods, &c. made an enumerated commodity; *i. e.* it was made liable to the like restraint of being first landed in some port of Great Britain, as sugar, tobacco, &c. are, before re-exported. The ancient Peruvians had the use of copper tools, before they were conquered by the Spaniards; but this was the first discovery of copper in any of the British colonies of America.

The vast increase of buildings in the great western suburbs of London, requiring a greater supply of fresh or sweet water than the present works could furnish; an act of Parliament of the said eighth year of King George the First, entitled, For better supplying the City and Liberties of Westminster and Parts adjacent with Water; authorised a newly-erected company, which was named the Chelsea Water Company, to dig basons, reservoirs, &c. for bringing water from the river Thames to a place near Chelsea, and to convey the same by an ingenious engine, to another reservoir in Hyde Park, from which last it is conveyed in pipes to several streets and houses: and the crown was hereby empowered to incorporate the undertakers, as was accordingly done in this same year.

The silk manufacture of England being brought to great perfection in all its branches, so as to equal the finest fabrications of any foreign nation, the British legislature now judged it proper to enact new encouragements to so noble a manufacture: by an act of the eighth year of King George the First, cap. xv. For encouraging the Silk Manufactures of this Kingdom, and for promoting its exportation to foreign parts; by granting the following bounties thereon, for three years to come, viz.

	Pound weight, Averdupois		
	£.	s.	d.
1. For ribbons and stuffs of silk only, for each pound weight -	0	3	0
2. Silks and ribbons of silk mixed with gold or silver -		4	0
3. Silk stockings, gloves, fringes, laces, stitching or sewing silk -		1	0
4. Stuffs of silk and grogram-yarn - - - - -	0	0	8
5. Silk stuffs mixed with incle or cotton - - -	0	1	0
6. Stuffs of silk and worsted - - - -	0	0	6

 This

A. D. 1722 This encouragement was founded on the consideration of raw and thrown silk's paying a considerable duty on its importation. And by a statute of the ninth of this King, cap. viii. the mixed manufactures herein named were not to be entitled to the said bounties, "excepting such wherein at least two-third parts of the ends or threads of the warp be either "all silk, or mixed and twisted with silk." Both which statutes have since been further prolonged.

By the first-named well judged statute also, for the encouragement of the British manufactures in general, the several duties whatsoever, payable thereon at exportation, were to cease and determine, although they were still regularly to be entered at every custom-house, excepting such for which a special provision is therein after made, viz. alum, lead, tin, tanned leather, copperas, coals, wool cards, white woollen cloths, lapis calaminaris, skins of all sorts, glue, coney wool, hare's wool, hair of all sorts, horses, and litharge of lead.

Moreover, for the further encouragement of British manufactures, by promoting the importation of drugs, &c. used in dying; all such were, upon being first duly entered, to be duty free; (saltpetre always excepted) but on re-exportation of those foreign dying stuffs, they were to pay the several duties therein specified; lest their being suffered to be exported duty-free should prove a benefit to the manufacturers of foreign nations. Hereby also half the duty on beaver-skins, now with other furs made an enumerated commodity, was to be drawn back on re-exportation: and the duty on the pepper of our own East India Company, for home consumption, which was before in all two shillings per pound weight, was now reduced to four-pence per pound weight.

By an act of Parliament, of this same eighth year of King George the First, For paying off and cancelling one million of Exchequer-bills, and to give Ease to the South Sea Company, in respect to its Obligation to circulate Exchequer-bills, &c. and for Relief of the Sufferers at Nevis and St. Christopher's, &c. further time was allowed to the South Sea Company, for then repaying to the public the million of Exchequer-bills formerly lent to them, and which was accordingly repaid the year following, and also several other regulations are therein made concerning Exchequer-bills, not material to our subject. Therein also there was an interest fixed, at the rate of three per cent. yearly, on the united principal and large arrear of interest due to the sufferers of Nevis and St. Christopher's, by the French in Queen Anne's war.

By the authority of another act of this year, To enable the South Sea Company to dispose of the Effects in their Hands, &c. they sold to the Bank of England four millions of their capital stock, attended with five per cent. interest, or a yearly interest of two hundred thousand pounds, whereby the whole South Sea capital stock was reduced to thirty-three millions eight hundred and two thousand four hundred and eighty-three pounds fourteen shillings. (An error of four hundred pounds had been discovered in the subscriptions). Whereupon the Bank takes in a subscription for sale of this newly-ingrafted stock at one hundred and eighteen pounds per cent. so that in their corporate capacity they gained six hundred and ten thousand one hundred and sixty-nine pounds ten shillings Bank stock: and the said stock, thus sold at eighteen per cent. advance, amounting to three millions three hundred and eighty-nine thousand eight hundred and thirty pounds ten shillings, produced in money the exact sum due to the South Sea Company, being four millions of pounds. The whole Bank capital due from the public hereby amounted to nine millions three hundred and seventy-five thousand and twenty-seven pounds seventeen shillings and ten-pence halfpenny, of which capital the sum of one million six hundred thousand pounds was entitled to six per cent. interest till the

year

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1722 year 1742; the reft, with all the remaining South Sea capital, was to be reduced to four per cent. from and after Midfummer 1727.

By an abftract of the public debts, by Archibald Hutchefon, Efquire, for the year 1722, publifhed in the year 1723, it appears,

		£. s. d.
I. That the grofs amount of the Poft-office annual revenue, was		201,804 1 8
II. There was to be deducted for frank covers to letters	33,397 12 3	
III. For the expence of management —	70,396 1 5	
		103,793 13 8
IV. The Poft-office's net produce at Michaelmas 1722 —		98,010 8 0

By another act of Parliament of this year, To prevent the Mifchiefs by forging Powers to transfer any Stocks, &c. it was made Felony to forge or procure to be forged any Letter of Attorney, for transferring of any Stocks or Shares of Corporations eftablifhed by Act of Parliament,—or to receive any Dividends thereon,—or to perfonate any real Proprietor. This law was occafioned by a fraudulent letter of attorney, for transferring fome South Sea ftock in the year 1720, though not difcovered till fourteen months after. Whereupon the South Sea general court, after much debate, refolved, (upon a ballot of one thoufand four hundred and fifty-feven votes againft one hundred and fixty,) "That every proprietor who has had, or "fhall have ftock transferred to him in the company's transfer-books, be entitled to the fum "fo transferred, upon his producing a receipt for the fame, witneffed by the clerk attending "the transfer books: provided there appears no fraud on the part of the purchafer."

In December 1722, the German Emperor, Charles the Sixth, firft granted his octroi, privilege, or charter, for an Eaft India Company at Oftend, which had hitherto been only connived at by him. Whereupon a capital of fix millions of florins was fubfcribed, and fhips were now more openly fent out, which returned with ladings of Eaft India merchandize, to the great lofs of both the Englifh and Dutch Eaft India Companies in the fales of their goods: of which both nations loudly complained.

The Hollanders, more efpecially and moft vehemently, infifted, and plainly made it appear, that the faid grant was directly repugnant to the treaty of Munfter, by which the King of Spain, then fovereign of the Netherlands, obliged himfelf and his fucceffors, as fuch, never to extend their navigation or commerce in India beyond the then acknowledged limits: the Spaniards and Dutch to keep within the bounds agreed to, viz. The Spaniards not to fail to India from Europe: and the Dutch only thither by the Cape of Good Hope; "that there-"fore the Auftrian Netherlands, as well as Arragon, Naples, Sicily, and other fubjects of "the Spanifh crown, were thereby barred from trading to India: and that the Emperor, as "fovereign of the ten Netherland provinces, is likewife bound hereby, fince the maritime "powers conquered thofe provinces for him, merely on the ground of his right to the Spanifh "monarchy, and could hold thofe provinces no otherwife than the Kings of Spain held "them.

"By the twenty-fixth article alfo of the barrier treaty, this fame Emperor ftipulates, that "every thing relating to commerce, fhould remain as ftipulated by the treaty of Munfter. "That, on the part of England, it was clear, that, by the eighth article of the treaty of "Madrid, between England and Spain, in the year 1670, Spain ftipulates, that the King of

"Great

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1722 "Great Britain and his subjects shall enjoy every benefit granted to the Hollanders by the "treaty of Munster;—and consequently hereby, as well as by the said barrier treaty, the English Company, as well as their sovereign, have an undoubted right to oppose this Ostend "trade to India."

And the British legislature, by a statute of the next year, the ninth of King George, To prevent his Majesty's Subjects from subscribing, or being concerned in, encouraging or promoting any Subscription for an East-India Company in the Austrian Netherlands; and for the better securing the lawful Trade of his Majesty's Subjects to and from the East Indies, cap. xxvi. enacted, "That every British subject who shall subscribe to the stock of the Ostend "Company, shall forfeit the same and treble the value thereof: one-third to the crown, and "two-thirds to the English East India Company. British subjects found in India, other "than such as shall be lawfully authorised, or within our East India Company's limits, are "hereby declared guilty of an high crime and misdemeanor, and to be liable to such corporal "punishment or imprisonment, and for such time as the court where they shall be tried shall "think fit, &c." But these warm arguments did not as yet effectually prevail.

In the same year 1722, his Majesty of Great Britain did, by his patent, grant the West India islands of St. Lucia and St. Vincents, to the late John Duke of Montague. Whereupon that public-spirited Duke sent over two governors for those islands, with secretaries and other officers, to the number of fifty-one persons in all, beside four hundred and twenty-five servants, with all kinds of stores, provisions, artillery, &c. in six ships, under convoy of a King's ship of war, very compleatly fitted and provided for such a new colony. But they had no sooner begun to clear the ground for a fort in St. Lucia, in December 1722, than they had notice from the governor of Martinico, that his express orders from his master, the French King, were to dislodge them by force, unless they withdrew from the island in fifteen days time: for which purpose two thousand men were landed from Martinico, and five hundred from Guadaloupe: and Mr. Uring, the English governor, finding that his men were, by sickness and desertion, reduced to no more than seventy in number, who were fit to bear arms, he judged it prudent, on due consultation, to abandon the islands on the fourteenth of January following; but very sensibly stipulated with the French commander, that the French forces should, in like manner, leave the isle of St. Lucia in its former neutral state and condition, until there should be a final decision made between the two crowns. Upon which, one obvious remark is sufficient, viz.

That either certain previous stipulations should have been made between the two crowns, for that noble Duke's people to be peaceably permitted to settle on those isles, or else a much greater force should have been sent to protect them: the isle of St Lucia being so near to Martinico, that the French would probably hazard even a war with Britain, rather than let us possess and improve it: since we should have been enabled by such a possession further to secure our Leeward Islands; as no considerable armament could be made at Martinico, but what would be presently known at St. Lucia.

This unhappy expedition is said to have cost the Duke no less a sum than forty thousand pounds, the greatest and most expensive undertaking attempted by any one subject in Christendom, on his own account; wherein five hundred and ten tradesmen and servants were maintained by his grace for a year and an half, and upwards of fifty officers. The tradesmen being allowed from twenty-five pounds to thirty pounds per annum for wages alone; and the officers salaries being from fifty pounds to four hundred pounds per annum, beside the shipping,

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1722 ping, provisions, ammunition, artillery, military and naval stores, &c. It is certain that the islands of St. Lucia, St. Vincents, and Dominica, always have been, till within these few years, included in the governor of Barbadoes commission, the title of which was used to run thus, viz. "Captain General and Governor of Barbadoes, and the rest of the Caribbee Isles "to the windward of Guadaloupe."

N. B. In November 1730, according to a work, entitled, The British Empire in America, we find the following instructions from his Majesty King George the Second to Mr. Worsley, governor of Barbadoes, relating to St. Lucia, viz.

"Whereas the French, for some years, have claimed a right to the island of St. Lucia, and "do insist that the right to the islands of St. Vincent and Dominica, under your government, "is in the Caribbeans now inhabiting the same, although we have an undoubted right to all "the said islands, yet we have thought fit to agree with the French court, that, until our right "shall be determined, the said islands shall be entirely evacuated by both nations. You are "accordingly to signify the same to such of our subjects as shall be found inhabiting any of "our said islands, that they do forthwith quit the same until the right shall be determined as "aforesaid. And you are to use your best endeavours, that no ships of our subjects, nor of "any other nation, do frequent the said islands during the time aforesaid, excepting only for "wood and water."

In the very next month, viz. in December the same year 1730, (that we may take in all at once what relates to this subject) the French King's instructions to his governor of Martinico, Monsieur de Champigny, are in substance, "That the English have, for some years past, "laid or made pretensions to the island of St. Lucia," the French call it St. Alouzie, "which "belongs to me, and to which I have an incontestable right: the same pretensions they have "laid to the islands of St. Vincent and Dominica, which belong to the Caribbeans, natives "of the country, according to the treaty of the thirty-first of March 1660, and in the pos-"session whereof it is my intention to support them: I have nevertheless agreed with the "court of England, that until those pretensions shall be determined, the said island shall be "evacuated by both nations. And it is my pleasure, that you make this known, &c."

We have already given, at various times, somewhat of the history of the island of St. Lucia, and some account also of Dominica. That of St. Vincent is somewhat more obscure. It lies to the southward of St. Lucia. When Governor Uring, before-mentioned, sent his counsellor, Mr. Egerton, thither, to prepare its inhabitants for submission to the British crown, he found two sorts of people there in great numbers, viz. the native Caribbeans, who are the Aborigines or primitive possessors thereof; and the negroes, the descendants of a cargo of slaves, from Africa, who had been shipwrecked there about seventy years before, and who, by the accession of other negroes, fugitives from the neighbouring European settlements, were become a numerous race, *i. e.* about six thousand men, women, and children. Their government was republican, viz. by chiefs or leaders by election. The Indians, or native Caribbeans, he found to consist of about eight thousand persons; they inhabited several pretty villages and seemed to live in plenty. They seemed also to be a determined people for liberty and independence, any further than at that time their acknowledging the protection of the French at Martinico, which the latter gladly afforded them, purposely for preventing their putting themselves under the protection of any other European nation.

In this same year, the general court of the African Company made a call of five pounds on every one hundred pounds nominal stock, for vigorously carrying on their trade: and the same

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1722 same court most unsagaciously resolved, that a dividend of one and a half per cent. per ann. be made to the proprietors of their stock.

The interfering of the Ostend East India Company, and many other difficulties, did at this time oblige the English East India Company to reduce their half yearly dividend from five to four per cent.

1723 Although four millions of the South Sea capital stock had been ingrafted, as we have shewn, into the capital stock of the Bank of England, yet still that company's capital was judged too large, viz. thirty-one millions eight hundred and two thousand four hundred and eighty-three pounds fourteen shillings. At general courts their numbers had already been, and might hereafter be, tumultuous: the legislature, therefore, judging that inconveniencies were likely to arise from the great number of proprietors, it was determined to divide the capital into two equal moieties: by an act of the ninth of King George the First, "For reviving and adding "two millions to the said capital stock,—and for dividing their whole capital," after such addition made, "into two equal moieties, &c." The said two millions were hereby accordingly carried to each proprietor's account, making one sixteenth part, or six pounds five shillings per cent. and the capital, thus again made up thirty-three millions eight hundred and two thousand four hundred and eighty-three pounds fourteen shillings, in consideration of the proprietors great losses from the bad execution of the scheme, was also hereby entitled to all arrears of interest, from and after Midsummer 1722, and the whole was, from and after Midsummer 1723, to be divided into two equal moieties.

	£.	s.	d.
The one moiety being - - - - - -	16,901,241	17	0
To be converted into a joint-stock, to be called South Sea annuities, attended with five per cent. interest till Midsummer 1727, when they shall be reduced to four per cent. and be further redeemable by Parliament. The other moiety to remain a capital, or joint trading stock in the company, attended with the remaining yearly fund, redeemable likewise after Midsummer 1727 - - - - -	16,901,241	17	0
The total of both, as above, being £.	33,802,483	14	0

Notwithstanding which division by this act, yet the real amount of each moiety was settled as follows, viz.

	£.	s.	d.
South Sea Annuities - -	16,901,240	1	8
South Sea Stock -	16,901,243	12	4

The difference of three pounds ten shillings and eight pence arising from leaving the odd penny of every proprietor's stock with his moiety of the capital trading stock.

The first payment of a quarter's interest, on the said joint-stock of South Sea annuities, being one one-fourth per cent. was to be at Michaelmas 1723, and from thence there were to be half yearly payments thereon, at Lady-day and Michaelmas yearly, as on the other moiety, to remain capital South Sea stock, the dividends were to be and remain as before, at Midsummer and Christmas yearly.

In

A. D. 1723 In this year, the South Sea Company sent out for La Vera Cruz, in Spanish Mexico, their richly laden annual ship, named the Royal Prince.

The abuses committed by the inhabitants of a pretended privileged place, adjoining to the Borough of Southwark, near London, called Suffolk Place, or the Mint, had been long complained of, and was at length become a very great grievance. Such great numbers of debtors sheltering themselves therein from the pursuit of their creditors, were now become so audacious as to bid open defiance to the officers appointed to put the laws in execution. It was now therefore become high time to put an end to so shameful an abuse, and to prevent the like for the future. This was accordingly done by an act of Parliament of the ninth of King George the First, cap. xxviii. For the more effectual Execution of Justice in a pretended privileged Place, in the Parish of St. George, in the County of Surry, commonly called the Mint, &c. whereby it was made felony to obstruct the execution of any writ, rule, or order of any court of law or of equity, or of any escape warrant, or warrants of justices:—and the Sheriff of Surry was impowered to raise the *posse comitatus*, for the taking by force any debtor out of the said mint: and several other regulations are, in the said statute, ordained for effectually preventing that or any other place from committing such open breaches of law and order for the future. So that from this time forward, there was an end to such pretended privileged places or sanctuaries any where in Great Britain or Ireland, for the sheltering or screening of debtors from the due course of law.

In this year, Mr. William Wood, whom we have elsewhere mentioned as a great proprietor in the iron and copper works, having obtained a patent for the coining of so large a quantity of copper halfpence and farthings, for the use of the kingdom of Ireland, as to the amount of one hundred thousand pounds sterling, both houses of the Parliament of that kingdom, in their addresses to the King, warmly represented, " That, under colour of the said patent, great " quantities of halfpence of different impressions, and of much less weight than is required " by the patent, had been imported and attempted to be uttered in this kingdom:—And that " even although the terms of the said patent had been strictly complied with, there would have " been a loss to the nation of at least one hundred and fifty per cent. by the said coinage, and " much greater in the manner the said halfpence have been coined."

For our parts, we do not well comprehend how one hundred and fifty pounds can be lost on one hundred pounds; wherefore this one hundred and fifty per cent. must be relative to some other part of the representation, or else there must have been some mistake in transcribing this parliamentary representation: but, waving that, we shall only briefly observe, that Mr. Wood alleged, in his own vindication, that both by the patent of King Charles the Second in the year 1680, and by that of King James the Second in the year 1684, a halfpenny was to weigh one hundred and ten grains, whereas Mr. Wood's halfpenny weighed one hundred and sixteen grains and three quarters, and was better copper than the said halfpence; but he is silent as to the Parliament's objection of the quantity of copper in his halfpenny being less than required by the patent. In fine, such a spirit was raised in Ireland, both within doors and without, and by pamphlets, newspapers, &c. against that new copper coin, partly because the patent was given to one who was not a native of Ireland, and that the said coin was altogether stamped in England: and partly also, that since a great profit was to be made, that benefit should not have accrued principally to the public, which reason we confess seems to carry great weight with it; and, we may add, likewise, that great pains had been taken by party men in Ireland, to inflame the people there against receiving or passing the said new copper money in any payments;

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1723 ments: that his Majesty, in compliance with the representations of the Parliament of Ireland, and the then general disposition and inclination of the people of that kingdom, was pleased to revoke his said patent, so far as that, instead of one hundred thousand pounds in copper coin, Mr. Wood might be permitted to send to Ireland only forty thousand pounds in all, to be current only to such as pleased voluntarily to accept of them; though to Mr. Wood's considerable detriment. Yet, if the representations of Mr. Wood be true, that the whole current cash of Ireland does not exceed four hundred thousand pounds, and that the customs, excise, hearth-money, and quit-rents amount to five hundred thousand pounds per annum, so as that one-fourth part more than all the said current cash of that kingdom is annually paid into their Exchequer; then, surely, this addition of one hundred thousand pounds to the current cash of the kingdom would have been a benefit to trade. And that if Mr. Wood's coin was not to be received, they should seriously have set about the substituting a competent quantity of other copper coin in its stead.

Notwithstanding a rebellion which broke out in the year 1715, and a dangerous conspiracy against the established constitution, discovered at the close of the preceding year 1722, yet such is the spirit and genius of the British nation for commerce, that it was seen and observed by all inquisitive people, to be still constantly flourishing. Erasmus Philips, Esquire, an author then of good credit, gives us an instance thereof in his pamphlet, published in the year 1726, second edition, entitled, The State of the Nation in Respect of her Commerce, Debts, and Money, which acquaints us, that from the year 1701 to the year 1723, the amount of the British customs was so considerable, that the net money paid into the Exchequer, on an average, or one year with another, for the said twenty-three years, was one million four hundred and forty-six thousand and twenty-two pounds per annum, even exclusive of seizures. which account nearly coincides with that before exhibited in the year 1715. And with seizures it amounted to one million four hundred and sixty-seven thousand five hundred and ninety-three pounds net money per annum.

The said Mr. Philips, in his above quoted pamphlet, gives us the quantity of silver and gold coined in the Tower of London, between the years 1701 and 1724, in silver, only one hundred and seventy-five thousand four hundred and sixty-four pounds weight; and in gold no less than two hundred and forty-one thousand one hundred and eighty-three pounds weight; which valuing a pound of gold at forty-four pounds sterling, makes the gold coined in England in twenty-three years time to amount in value to ten millions six hundred and twelve thousand and fifty-two pounds sterling. Which vast coinage of gold in those years was owing to our putting too high a value on gold in proportion to silver, whereby foreign nations were encouraged to import gold upon us in exchange for our silver. Which inconvenience, as we have seen, was remedied by reducing guineas from one pound one shilling and six pence to one pound one shilling, by the advice of Sir Isaac Newton.

After the confusion and shameful jumble of the French Company or Society of the Indies, made by the authority of the Duke of Orleans, Regent of France, during the minority of King Louis XV. which consolidated company was composed of the original capital of the Western Company, and of twenty-five millions of livres added thereto, upon the union of the East India Company therewith; it was in this year 1723, judged requisite, for restoring things to some order, that a revision should be made of the actions possessed by the proprietors of this same consolidated company, for distinguishing, as was speciously alleged, between such as had acquired their property fairly, and by purchase, and such as had by stock-jobbing forced

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1723 themselves into the company's books. For this purpose the King fixed the capital at one hundred and twelve millions of livres, the annual interest on which was fixed, if any thing can be called fixed in France but the power of their Monarch, at eight millions; to be paid out of the farm of tobacco, and the profit of the furs from Canada. And the commerce of the Indies was assigned to that company as a collateral security for the present, to be employed for enlarging the funds and for discharging the incumbrances thereon.—Yet, till many years after, the East India trade of France was managed in a very languid manner, they having been obliged to pay off many old debts, to rebuild their ships and factories, and to lay out above fifteen millions for the improving of Louisiana, and for compleating the superb works of Port l'Orient.—But Orry being placed at the head of the French finances, in the year 1737, he so effectually supported and improved the East India Company, that their public sale at Port l'Orient in 1742, amounted to twenty-four millions of livres, or about one million sterling, which greatly alarmed England and Holland, who did not at first know that all this fine appearance was chiefly supported by the crown, until the war with England in the year 1744, obliged Orry to declare to the company, "that they must now stand on their own legs." Notwithstanding all which, and the stop of their dividends at that time, they have since vastly improved their East India Commerce and power there, even almost to the present time.

1724 After much debate in several of the general courts of the South Sea Company, concerning the utility of attempting a Greenland trade or whale fishery, wherein it was too plainly shewn, that former Greenland companies were so unsuccessful as to have run out their entire stock or capital; and that some foreign nations have many advantages over our people in respect to this fishery; this company at length resolved to commence the said fishery.

This was certainly a well intended and popular resolution, and was agreeable to the powers granted by the first act of Parliament, and to the royal charter, for erecting of this company, as well as to part of the denomination or title given to it by the said royal charter. In order for the better succeeding therein the company had procured an act of Parliament, of this tenth year of King George the First, cap. xvi. For encouraging the Greenland Fishery: "whereby the duty of three pence per pound on whale-fins was repealed; and that whale-fins, "oil and blubber of whales, caught and imported in British ships, whereof the commander "and at least one-third of the mariners to be British subjects, should absolutely be custom-free "for seven years, from Christmas 1724."

And by an act of Parliament of the twelfth of this King, cap. xxvi. "This freedom from "all custom was extended to Davis's Streights and the seas adjacent, and also comprehended "therein seal oil, seal skins, or any other produce of seals, or other fish or creatures, taken "or caught in any of the said seas." Which said paragraph had also in view the large white bears so commonly found on the ice there; and also sea horses or morses, very numerous in those seas.

Yet, it being too late for the fishery of the present year, they directed twelve fine ships, of three hundred and six tons each, to be built upon the river Thames, and proper quantities of hemp from Riga, and cask staves from Hamburg, to be got ready for the ensuing spring: the company having also hired the Duke of Bedford's great wet dock at Deptford, for the use of their ships and stores, and for curing of their oil and whale fins.

In this same year 1724, the South Sea Company also sent out their rich annual ship for Carthagena and Porto-bello, in the Spanish West Indies.

We

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1724 We think it may at this time be proper to take notice of the increase of the famous fund erected by the British Parliament in the yeaa 1717, named the Sinking Fund, which increase proceeded from the surplusses of the other three already described funds, viz. the Aggregate, the General, and the South Sea Funds, either by paying off part of their capital or principal debt, or else by a reduction of the rate of their interest payable by the public. The said sinking-fund, therefore, we may observe, was, on the thirty-first of December 1724, increased to six hundred and fifty-three thousand pounds, which fund will be much more considerably encreased from and after Midsummer 1727, as will be seen in due time.

In the close of this same year 1724, the Emperor Charles VI. executed and again confirmed The Pragmatic Sanction and perpetual Law, with regard to the Rule and Order of the Succession and indissoluble Union of all his hereditary Kingdoms and Provinces, which he had settled in the year 1713, so as they should always remain closely united under one sole person, viz. on his daughter, the late Empress Queen. "For preventing the dismembering and di-" vision thereof among the heirs of our august family," says he, "either within Germany or " without; so as to be a perpetual and irrevocable law: that the eldest male heir, and in failure " of male, the eldest female heir, shall for ever succeed to all the dominions of the house of " Austria."

This was thought a good means for preserving an equilibrium of power in Europe; and so far we have judged proper to mention it, as we think it a benefit to the general commerce of the world; since, without such an equilibrium of power, the freedom of commerce might hereafter be overturned, by the mere will of some one over-grown tyrant. This famous Pragmatic Sanction was solemnly agreed to by most of the potentates of Europe, before that Emperor's death, although it has since appeared to have been little regarded even by potentates who guaranteed it by the most solemn treaties.

1725 In the year 1725, the South Sea Company commenced their unfortunate whale fishery. Their twelve new ships brought home twenty-five whales and a half: and, though this was scarcely a saving voyage, it was, nevertheless, the very best year of any of the eight in which they carried on that fishery. It must, however, be observed, that the nation having entirely relinquished this trade for so many years past, there was not an Englishman to be found who knew any thing of the Greenland or whale fishery. The company was therefore under the necessity of having all their commanders, harpooners, boat-steerers, line-veerers, and blubber-cutters from Fohrde in Holstein, some few natives of Scotland excepted, who on this occasion left the service of the Hollanders, who had before this time been constantly employed either by Hamburgers, Bremers, or Hollanders. Those Holsteiners cost the company this year three thousand and fifty-six pounds eighteen shillings and three pence, although but one hundred and fifty-two in number; not only because they were all what is usually called officers in that fishery, and consequently had more wages and allowances than the common sailors, but had also their charges borne by the company, both in coming every year from and returning back to Holstein to their families, as was also their constant practice when employed by other nations: whereas above double their number, viz. three hundred and fifty-three British subjects employed on those twelve ships, cost but three thousand one hundred and fifty-one pounds fifteen shillings and five pence.

In this same year 1725, was passed an act of the British Parliament of the eleventh of King George the First, cap. ix. For continuing the several Annuities to the Bank of England until Midsummer 1727, &c.—Whereby the yearly fund on the principal sums of one million seven

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1725 hundred and seventy-five thousand and twenty-seven pounds seventeen shillings and ten pence halfpenny, and of two millions due to that corporation, were reduced from five to four per cent. from and after Midsummer 1727; and all the funds of the Bank were put on an equal footing with those of the South Sea Company; excepting only the Bank's original capital of one million six hundred thousand pounds which still remained at six per cent.

This act made it felony to alter, forge, or counterfeit Bank Notes, or to erase or alter any endorsement thereon; or to tender in payment, utter, vend, exchange, or barter, any such Bank Note, knowing the same to be altered, forged, erased, or counterfeited, with intention to defraud the Bank, or any other person or body-politic.

About this time, the French first began to supply, in considerable quantities, the European markets with their sugars from Martinico, Hispaniola, &c. formerly and almost totally supplied by us, though in part they are still supplied by the Portuguese Brasil sugars, and, of late, by the Dutch, from Surinam. And, in a few years after, by their great application, they gained from us almost all, or the greatest part of that very profitable branch of commerce.

The anonymous author of, The present State of the British and French Sugar Colonies, printed in the year 1740, makes the French sugars exported to the European markets amount to so vast a quantity as eighty thousand hogsheads yearly. And that the Indigo raised by the French in their West India colonies amounts in value to one million of sterling money; three-fourths of which they sell to other nations:—and they also export to other European nations, in cocoa, cotton, ginger, rum, (he might have added coffee, &c.) about two hundred and fifty thousand pounds yearly. To all which let there be added the freight thereon—the great number of persons both in Europe and America, as well as in their ships, constantly maintained thereby—the great consumption of the product and manufactures of France, both in the West Indies, and on the African coasts for the purchase of their slaves; and then we need not wonder, that even so long ago as the year 1701, the then new French council of Commerce, in a memorial, could say, "that the navigation of France owed all its increase "and splendour to the commerce of its sugar islands; and that it could not be kept up and "enlarged otherwise than by that commerce."

1726 Twelve more ships being built by the South Sea Company, they, in the year 1726, sent out their whole twenty-four ships on their second voyage on the whale fishery, to Greenland and Davis's Streights. In which they succeeded considerably worse than in their first voyage, having brought home but sixteen whales and an half.

The meaning of the half-whale here and elsewhere is, when two ships, perhaps of different nations, happen to strike the same whale, which by common custom is equally divided between them.

In Mr. Philips's State of the Nation in respect to her Commerce, Debts, and Money, already quoted, he gives us a summary view of the English East India Company's trade, and of its benefits to the public; about which, however, people are still far from being of the same opinion.

I. He says, "The Company's sales have for many years past exceeded two millions two "hundred thousand pounds yearly:" which is probably true, consisting of wrought and raw silk, callicoes, saltpetre, drugs, tea, coffee, cotton and cotton-yarn, Carmenia wool, &c.

II. "That one million thereof may probably be consumed at home."—This, it is to be feared, is rather computed under the mark.

III. "That

A. D. 1726 III. "That the Company's exports annually to India are to the value of five hundred thou- "sand pounds in bullion and manufactures." This is but a strange jumble, to mix bullion and manufactures together in one gross sum, which are always esteemed the reverse of each other.

IV. "To the million consumed at home, he adds, four hundred thousand pounds to be de- "ducted for the drawback allowed at the custom-house upon the one million two hundred "thousand pounds re-exported." And concludes,

V. "That the remaining eight hundred thousand pounds is, or should be the annual gain "to the nation by the East India trade."

Now, to this balance of national gain, ought certainly to have been added the total of our manufactures exported to India.

What he adds is very true, "That the company's trade maintains very many people at "home, as well as considerable numbers of our people in India, who bring home much "wealth to their native country." But what he says about our East India trade's having brought down the price of other European wares which we used, before we entered into it, seems of little consideration in this state of the company. "Moreover, says he, "if the said "East India merchandize re-exported do pay or answer for such European goods, for which, "without this trade, we must have paid in cash, it is in effect the same as if it brought in so "much cash or bullion. As this trade also furnishes us with what otherwise we must neces- "sarily have bought of the Dutch," (meaning, we presume, saltpetre, pepper, and drugs,) "possibly the nation's yearly profit by it may be near one million sterling.

Lastly, "In contemplation of the vast exportation of silver from all Europe to the East In- "dies, there buried since 1602, so as never to return, computed to the amount of one hundred "and fifty millions sterling; had that vast sum remained to this day in Europe, whereby our "proportion of cash would have been treble to what it now is, the consequence would have "been,—that commodities and labour would, probably, have risen in a treble proportion; "and, in effect," according to him, "we should not have been richer in such a case than "we are at present."

He has, however, forgotten:

First, The national benefit from a very great annual sum paid for the customs of East India goods consumed at home, said to amount to above three hundred thousand pounds. And,

Secondly, That a considerable part of the million of East India commodities, annually consumed or remaining at home, is worked up in our great and very profitable manufactures of silk and cotton, and much of the drugs are also employed therein.

In this same year, King George the First, upon the humble petition of the East India Company, granted them a new charter of confirmation: with ample powers for them to erect a corporation at Fort St. George, by the name of, The Mayor and Aldermen of Madraspatan in the East Indies. And another corporation at and within the factory and town of Bombay, by the name of, The Mayor and Aldermen of Bombay. Also a third corporation, within the factory of Fort William in Bengal, by the name of, The Mayor and Aldermen of Calcutta at Fort William in Bengal.—With perpetual succession to each of the said three corporations,—a common seal—a power to make by-laws, as well as to try causes both civil and criminal, high-treason excepted.

Mr. Philips, in his publication already mentioned, speaking of the circulation of money, supposes, "That France is to England as eight is to three.—That their specie," *i. e.* money, "is perhaps proportionable. Yet there is a greater shew of money in England than in France; "but

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1726 " but if the circulation of France were equal to that of England, France would appear of " course so much richer than England."

	£.
" 1. Possibly," says he, " the real yearly rents of England may be - " it being supposed that our lands are not taxed at half their value.	20,000,000
" 2. The customs of England produce annually about - -	1,600,000
" 3. Which customs, on an average of thirty per cent. *ad valorem*, make the " value of our annual imports to be about - - -	5,300,000
" 4. And our re-exportations may be about - - -	1,500,000
" 5. The other duties and funds may be about - -	2,199,328
" 6. If there be eight millions of people in England, I believe I shall not exceed in supposing them to consume in manufactures about - -	16,000,000
" 7. Now although the interest arising from mortgaged lands be included in " the before-named rental, yet the mortgages themselves are often transferred, " and may therefore be deemed money in circulation: and these have been com- " puted at one-fifteenth part of the whole value of the lands, or about -	26,000,000
" 8. The national debt about - - - -	53,000,000
" 9. The malt-tax about - - -	600,000
" So that the whole money transactions of this nation seem to be about	126,199,328

This Mr. Philips speaks of as a stupendous thought.

Now although this computation may in general be thought liable to some exception, yet some parts of it may hereafter strike out new lights, or at least start new thoughts, for more correct computations.

Whilst Britain and the States General of the United Netherlands were remonstrating at Vienna, and promulgating acts of Parliament and placarts against the continuance of the Ostend Company's trading to India, that company's general court or assembly resolves in this year to make a dividend of twelve per cent. to their proprietors, and to maintain their then settlement at Coblore, on the coast of Coromandel, and their factories at Bengal, and their trade to Canton in China. Nevertheless, we shall soon see an end put to that company: For, although neither gratitude for past benefits, nor regard for the clearest and strongest treaties, could prevail at Vienna, the resolutions of the two powers, so nearly interested in the suppression of that company, became too strong to be much longer resisted.

The western suburbs of London, wherein persons of quality and distinction usually reside, being now so greatly increased, the legislature, in this twelfth of King George the First, by a clause in an Act for granting an Aid to his Majesty by laying a Duty upon all Victuallers, &c. empowered the commissioners for hackney coaches and chairs to add one hundred hackney chairs to the former number, so as the whole exceed not four hundred in number; each of which shall continue to pay ten shillings per annum for their licences.

By an act of Parliament of the said twelfth of King George the First, For better securing the Monies and Effects of the Suitors of the Court of Chancery, &c. it was made " felony with- " out benefit of clergy, not only to forge or counterfeit the name or hand of the accountant- " general of the court of Chancery, and of the register and clerk of the Report-office; but " likewise the name or hand of any of the cashiers of the Bank of England, to any certificate, " report,

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1726 " report, entry, indorsement, declaration of trust, note, direction, authority, instrument, or " writing whatsoever, in order for the receiving or obtaining money or effects of suitors in " Chancery: as also any bond or obligation under the seals of the East India and South Sea " Companies, or any indorsement thereon."

1727 The South Sea Company having built another new ship for the whale fishery, they, in this year 1727, sent out their whole twenty-five ships on that fishery; wherein they employed one thousand one hundred and six men, viz. seven hundred and sixty two British subjects, and three hundred and forty-four foreigners. This too proved an unfortunate voyage, as two of those ships were lost, and the remaining twenty-three ships brought home but twenty-two and an half whales.

The great river and bay of Delawar in Pennsylvania, and the seas adjoining, abounding with fish of various kinds, fit for foreign markets, whereby the trade of Great Britain, as well as the inhabitants of the said province of Pennsylvania, would reap considerable benefits, especially by enabling the latter to purchase more of the British manufactures than at present they are able to do;—an act of Parliament was now passed, in the thirteenth and last year of King George the First, For the importing of Salt from Europe into the said Province of Pennsylvania, in British Ships, navigated by the Acts of Navigation; for curing their fish, in like manner as is practised in New England and Newfoundland, by virtue of an act of the fifteenth of King Charles II.

Nothing can more obviously demonstrate the amazing increase of England's commerce, in less than two centuries past, than the great increase of many of its commercial and manufacturing towns; such, for instance, as the town and port of Liverpool, in Lancashire, which in our days is become the greatest emporium of the British empire, after London and Bristol: and, although it is allowed to be an ancient corporation and borough, was nevertheless so inconsiderable in point of populousness and magnitude, even in the last generation, as not to have been made a distinct parish within itself, until the year 1699, by an act of Parliament of the tenth and eleventh of King William, when also a new parish church was erected, there being only a chapel there till then. In the year 1715, it was so much increased, that, by an act of the first of King George the First, a second parish and church was erected in it. The author of the third volume of the Tour through the whole Island of Great Britain, published in the year 1727, observes, " That in his first visit to Liverpool, in the year 1680, it was a " large handsome thriving town. At his second visit, ten years after, it was become much " bigger; and, as the inhabitants reported, twice as large as it was twenty years before," *i. e.* about 1670: " but at his third visit, in 1726, it was more than double its bigness of the " said second visit, in the year 1690: and it is still increasing in wealth, people, business, and " buildings."

This same author, treating of Manchester, in the same county, observes, " That, within " a very few years past, here, as at Liverpool, and also at Froome, in Somersetshire, the " town is extended in a surprising manner; being almost twice the magnitude it was a few " years ago. So that, taking in all its suburbs, it now," *i. e.* in the year 1727, " contains " at least fifty thousand people. That the grand manufacture which has so much raised this " town is that of cotton in all its varieties, which, like all our other manufactures, is very " much increased within these thirty or forty years." The said cotton manufacture is probably at least as ancient as the middle of Queen Elizabeth's reign; seeing Camden makes mention of Manchester cottons. The raw material cotton wool, in those early times, came

probably

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1727 probably to us solely from the Levant; but now our American colonies supply us abundantly with that and many other valuable productions. Nevertheless, this vast place is properly but a mere village in point of government, as having no officer higher than a constable: so that it may possibly be considered the largest mere village in Christendom, according to our legal sense of that term

A similar increase, and very near as sudden, has happened to the town of Birmingham, in Warwickshire; which, in point of government, is as much a village as Manchester. Its vast increase is entirely owing to its iron and hard-ware manufacture, of a great variety of sorts: whereby it is said to employ or support upwards of fifty thousand people.

In March this year departed this life, the incomparably great and excellent Sir Isaac Newton, aged eighty-five, president of the Royal Society, master of his Majesty's mint: probably the greatest philosopher, and undoubtedly the greatest mathematician in Europe; whose entire character however we are far from pretending to draw. It shall suffice us to say, in one word, that he has not left his equal, in all probability, on the face of the whole earth; having, even by all the learned of foreign nations, been allowed the pre-eminence; and to be the unrivalled glory of the British name and nation.

In this year the general court of the South Sea Company agreed to discharge all the borrowers of money on their stock and subscriptions, in the famous year 1720, who had not already repaid the same; on condition of their paying back only ten per cent. of the money so borrowed.

In the same year the Royal African Company's general court came to various resolutions, for carrying on their trade, and for preventing the separate traders from interfering with them. For reducing their then nominal capital stock, so as every eight hundred pounds be reduced to one hundred pounds, and so as their whole capital shall not exceed four hundred thousand pounds, including therein a certain quantity of additional stock, to be created in their corporate capacity, and to be sold out to individuals, for enabling them to carry on their said trade. All which however came to nothing.

The island of Madagascar lying within the East India Company's limits of trade, an act of Parliament, of this thirteenth year of King George the First, was obtained, To enable the South Sea Company, with the Licence and Consent of the East India Company, to take in Negroes there, and to deliver the same at Buenos-Ayres: the South Sea Company giving security to the East India Company not to break bulk any-where within the limits of the latter company, nor to sail or go to any coast, island, port or place, within their limits, other than to the said island of Madagascar, under forfeiture of their ships, furniture, and ladings, and of double the value. This act to continue for six years only; and the South Sea Company was thereby limited to four ships annually, and to carry to Madagascar nothing but the necessary provisions, &c. solely for the purpose of negroes. It was about this time that the said South Sea Company actually employs upwards of thirty ships and sloops, beside their great annual ship, in their negro trade to the Spanish ports of America, and in making returns for the same.

By another statute, of this same year and session, For enlarging the Time for hearing and determining Claims by the Trustees for raising Money on the Estates of the late Directors of the South Sea Company and others, the net produce of those estates is directed to be applied solely for the benefit of the said company.

In

A. D. 1727 In this year William Burnet, Esquire, the then worthy governor of the New York colony, having duly considered, that the chief support of the French colony of Canada was the fur and peltry trade with the Indians; and that, moreover, their towns of Quebec and Montreal were chiefly supplied with European merchandize by our merchants of New York, at a much cheaper rate than they had them from France, he rightly inferred, that if the traders of New York were totally debarred from carrying their goods to Canada, they might themselves directly, or at the first hand, supply the Indian tribes on and near the lakes of Canada with English merchandize: for that end he obtained an act of the assembly of New York, for opening a most profitable trade directly with those Indian nations who till now had dealt entirely with the French at Canada. For which purpose the New York assembly was at the expence, this very year, of building and fortifying a trading place at Oswego, on the east bank of the lake Ontario, where they continued to keep a garrison, (till they were assaulted and driven out by the French from Canada, in the year 1757, that fort having been too slightly built) and had upwards of three hundred traders there, who constantly met the Indians from Canada, and from the great lakes west and north from the lake Ontario, and south from the lake Erie. This was a promising step towards our getting possession of all the inland trade of North America, by erecting fortified truck houses on the further lakes in and west of Canada: But, in succeeding times, the French in those parts were, through our shameful supineness, suffered to make gradual encroachments on the boundaries of that and our other northern provinces of America, till it became very near too late to put a stop to their career.

By a statute of the same thirteenth of King George the First, cap. iii. For redeeming sundry Annuities transferable at the Bank of England, and the Annuities payable on standing Orders, &c. All the redeemable annuities transferable at the Bank, and those assignable at the Exchequer, which were not subscribed into the South Sea Company in the year 1720, were now paid off by the sinking fund.

By another statute, of this same session of Parliament, For the better Regulation of the Woollen Manufacture, &c. the justices of the counties of Gloucester, Wilts, and Somerset, are empowered to appoint a certain number of inspectors in each of those counties, with a salary of thirty pounds each yearly; who shall, on every week day, have power to enter into and inspect all mills, work-houses, and tenter-grounds of clothiers, &c. concerned in the manufacturing and milling of mixed or medley woollen broad cloths, for measuring, and otherwise examining the goodness thereof: and shall stamp his name thereon with a leaden seal, if found sufficient cloth. This office is instead of the ancient one of aulneger, and also of the subsequent inspectors, which, for want of sufficient checks, were become useless. These inspectors were to lay their register books before every general quarter session for each county, with an account of all penalties and forfeitures incurred by the makers of insufficient cloths.

By another statute of this session, For preventing Frauds and Abuses in the Dying-Trade, penalties are inflicted on dyers of black bays, and other woollen goods, without woad, indigo, or madder. And the penalty is also inflicted on every person using logwood in the dying of blue in any kind of woollen goods.

And after all the bustle which the Austrian Netherlands and the court of Vienna had so long made about their Ostend Company's trade to the Indies, the arguments urged by Britain and Holland were so cogent and so effectually powerful, that the Emperor found himself ne-

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1727 cessitated now first to suspend that company's charter for seven years, and afterwards to revoke it entirely.

The King of Spain having now in vain laid siege to Gibraltar, before any formal declaration of war against the crown of Great Britain, he at the same time directed to be seized all the effects of the South Sea Company in America, with the great ship Prince Frederick and its cargo at La Vera Cruz, to the amount of upwards of one hundred and twenty thousand pounds sterling. And this was the second time that the court of Madrid found, or thought they found, their account in such sudden seizures; whereby the precariousness of this company's trade to the Spanish West Indies did now but too plainly appear.

At Midsummer this year, the reduction of the interest on the national debt from five to four per cent. took place; by which measure the famous sinking fund was increased to above one million per annum. Had those, whose province it properly was, kept punctually to the paying off at least one million of the public debts annually, from this year 1727 to the year 1739, when we declared war against Spain, in how much easier a situation would the nation then have been? Instead of which frugal measure, that sacred fund has been either directly or indirectly sacrilegiously and wantonly violated, to the inconceivable damage of the nation's commerce, which otherwise would have long since been greatly eased by the abolishing of such taxes, duties, and customs, as are at present very considerable clogs on our manufactures and foreign commerce, by enabling our rivals to undersell us at foreign markets, to our unspeakable detriment.

By the necessary operation of this sinking fund of only one million yearly, it was very plainly shewn by a judicious pamphlet, entitled, An Essay on the Public Debts of this Kingdom, "That, supposing the then national debt of fifty millions, and the said sinking fund of one "million, to be both at four per cent. interest, the latter increasing annually in like propor- "tion as such a sum put out at compound interest, would do, the whole national debt would "have been discharged by the year 1756.

"Thus," for illustration, "at Midsummer 1728, one million would be paid off, and at "Midsummer 1729 the sinking fund would be one million and forty thousand pounds, and "that same year and term the debts would be lessened two millions and forty thousand "pounds. At Midsummer 1730, the sinking fund would be increased to one million and "eighty thousand pounds, and the debts would be lessened three millions one hundred and "twenty-one thousand six hundred pounds; and so on to the said year 1756, when the said "sinking fund would be increased to thirty millions, and the total amount of the debts paid "would be fifty millions.

"Again," says our said well known author, Mr. John Adam, long since dead, "supposing "the fifty millions had been at three per cent. from Midsummer 1727, then at Midsummer "1751, instead of 1756, the sinking fund would be increased to thirty millions, and the debt "of fifty millions would then be discharged."

The same author also judiciously and honestly demonstrated the damage and obstructions which would happen, if the sinking fund should be misapplied or diverted from its annual diminution of the public debts.

We shall here only further observe, That upon this second reduction of the interest of our national debts, their market price advanced very considerably.

In this same year, an act of Parliament passed, For encouraging and promoting Fisheries, Manufactures, and other Improvements, in that part of Great Britain called Scotland; by which

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1727 which the crown was empowered to appoint commissioners for managing the application of the funds for improving fisheries and commerce there: and these commissioners were annually to lay before the King any alterations necessary for improving the fisheries and manufactures of that country.

By a statute of the first year of King George II. cap. viii. For granting an Aid to his Majesty, by Sale of Annuities to the Bank of England, at four per Cent. charged on the Duties on Coals and Culm, &c. the Bank fund was increased by seventy thousand pounds interest, on one million seven hundred and fifty thousand pounds advanced on those duties, redeemable by Parliament. And the Bank hereupon thought it prudent to declare a reduction of the yearly dividend on their capital stock from six to five and a half per cent. from Lady-day 1728.

By this same statute a million of the national debt was paid off out of the sinking fund, viz. five hundred thousand pounds to the South Sea Company, which was to be paid off by sinking so much of the undistributed stock forfeited by the late directors, &c. in the year 1720; which was to go to pay the company's debts. Hereupon that company sunk two hundred and fifty thousand pounds from the capital stock, and the same sum from South Sea annuity stock.

And five hundred thousand pounds was in like manner paid to the Bank of England, being part of the two millions added to their capital by an act of the third of King George I. whereby the total of their capital stock was reduced to four millions eight hundred and seventy-five thousand and twenty-seven pounds seventeen shillings and ten-pence halfpenny.

1728 By a preliminary convention between Great Britain and Spain, signed at the Pardo, near Madrid, on the sixth of March 1728, it was agreed, on the one hand, "That his Britannic "Majesty should withdraw his fleets from the coasts of Spain, and from the Spanish West "Indies; and that the contraband trade, and other causes of complaint, which the Spaniards "may have in relation to the ship Prince Frederick; and the restoring of prizes taken on "each side, shall be decided at a future congress."

On the other hand, Spain agrees,

"First, Immediately to raise the blockade of Gibraltar.

"Secondly, To order the ship Prince Frederick, with her cargo, to be delivered up to the "South Sea Company's agents at La Vera Cruz. And,

"Thirdly, To restore the commerce of that company with Spanish America, agreeable to "the Assiento-contract."

Dr. Berkley, Dean (since Bishop) of Derry, having obtained a patent from King George the First, for erecting a college in Bermudas, for the instruction of youth in all manner of liberal sciences, he sailed thither this year, taking with him several tradesmen and artists, with certain stores and merchandize, and a good library. He sailed first for the continent of North America; where, maturely weighing the practicability of his wild though well-intended scheme, which was for educating the children of the inhabitants of the continent and islands of America, at the small Bermudas isles, in the midst of a tempestuous ocean, far removed from any land, either continent or island, and every way improper for that purpose; he was so well advised, at length, as to return to his deanery, without so much as setting foot on the now almost worn-out Bermuda Island.

By a treaty of peace and commerce between the King of Great Britain and the Emperor of Morocco, signed at Mequinez, it was now stipulated,

A. D. 1728 "I. That all Moors and Jews, subjects of Morocco, shall be allowed a free traffic for thirty "days" (*i. e.* to buy and sell) "in the city of Gibraltar and at the island of Minorca, though "not to reside at either place; but to depart with their effects, without molestation, to any "part of the Morocco dominions.

"II. On the other hand, the British subjects in Barbary shall not be obliged to appear be- "fore the Cadi, or the justices of the country, but only before the governor of the place: "and the British consuls are to take cognizance of, and adjust the differences they may have "with the natives of the country.

"III. The menial servants of British subjects, though natives of the country, either Moors "or Jews, shall be exempted from taxes of all kinds.

"IV. British subjects taken on board of foreign ships by the subjects of Morocco, shall "immediately be set at liberty, and sent to Gibraltar.

"V. Provisions may be freely bought, and other necessaries, for his Britannic Majesty's "fleets, or for his city of Gibraltar, in any port of the Emperor of Morocco, at the market "prices; and shall be shipped off without paying custom."

These concessions from that barbarous people are extremely honourable to Britain; but they would be no longer kept than we are masters at sea, and are in possession of the most important fortress and port of Gibraltar.

Toward the close of the reign of King George the First, the colonies of South and North Carolina were grievously afflicted with invasions from the Indians in their neighbourhood, so that the people were unable (even with what assistance they could procure from neighbouring colonies) to withstand those savages. And the lords proprietors being unwilling to take upon themselves the expence of this Indian war, the deputies of those colonies humbly besought the King to take them under his protection. Whereupon the Duke of Beaufort, the Lord Craven, Sir John Colleton, James Bertie, Esquire, Dodington Greville, Esquire, Henry Bertie, Esquire, John Cotton, Esquire, Joseph Blakes, Esquire, Mary Dawson, and Elizabeth Moore, being the representatives of the original proprietors of seven-eighth parts of those two provinces, (either in their own right, or in trust) declaring, by petition to his Majesty, their willingness to surrender their charters to the crown for a valuable consideration; an act of Parliament was passed in the second year of King George II. For establishing an Agreement with Seven of the Lords Proprietors of Carolina, for the Surrender of their Title and Interest in that Province to his Majesty. In consideration of which, the said seven proprietors were to be paid the sum of seventeen thousand five hundred pounds, (being two thousand five hundred pounds for each seventh part) and five thousand pounds more for the arrears of quit-rents, &c. due to them. Thus for so small a sum as twenty-two thousand five hundred pounds, were seven eighth parts of those fine provinces made regal governments from and after the first of June, 1729. And as the Lord Carteret (since Earl of Granville) chose to retain the other remaining eighth part of Carolina in his own right, a clause in the said act of Parliament "provides or saves to his lordship, his heirs, executors, administrators, and "assigns, all such estate, right, title, &c. to one undivided eighth part or share of the said "provinces, and one-eighth part of all arrears of quit-rents, &c. thereof.—Notwithstanding "which the government of the whole is hereby made entirely regal." And in this regal state Carolina (under two separate governors, councils, and assemblies) has wonderfully flourished and increased in trade and commerce, and has extended its plantations further back or westward.—Proper supplies and relief having been sent thither by the crown; so that the neighbouring

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1728 bouring Indians were reduced to live in a peaceable condition for a considerable length of time; but manifesting once more an hostile disposition, they were again reduced to reasonable terms, after much bloodshed.

In this same year 1728, the South Sea Company sent out their twenty-three remaining ships for their whale fishery, and returned with only the blubber and fins of eighteen whales; which was undoubtedly a losing voyage.

There was, at this time, printed in the new edition of Harris's Collection of Voyages, a list of the dividends made by the Dutch East India Company, from the year 1605, to 1728, both years included, twelve and a half per cent. being the smallest dividend made for one whole year in all that number of years, and seventy-five per cent. the highest. Those dividends were sometimes all in money; at other times in bonds, bearing an interest at four or three and an half per cent. Sometimes also they were made in mace, cloves, and pepper; but alway in money since the year 1698. So that in the said space of one hundred and twenty-four years they had, on an average, divided somewhat more than twenty-four per cent. one year with another, or in all two thousand seven hundred and eighty-four and a half per cent. in the whole of the said one hundred and twenty-four years; or about eighteen millions sterling, on their entire capital of six hundred and fifty thousand pounds sterling, drawn mostly from other nations: beside which, we are to consider the great sums paid by this company to the state, for the frequent renewals of their privileges, amounting to more than its original capital; and, the vast estates gained by the numberless officers of all sorts in the company's service since its first establishment.

We may also consider, what an immense sum must have been laid out by the company, in the building and repairs of their ships, &c. in the employment given to so many thousand of people thereby, and by the manufactures and merchandize exported: all which, and other profits accruing to the state by this commerce, has without doubt, greatly overbalanced all the silver which from the beginning has been exported to and never returns from India. And we cannot here avoid observing, that all these considerations are equally applicable to our own English East India Company, though perhaps in a somewhat lesser degree, and may therefore justly serve for a further defence of our East India commerce.

In this same year, the British House of Commons presented to the King a representation or particular account of the national debts, contracted before Christmas 1716, and how much thereof has been since discharged by the Sinking-fund, though till now but in its infancy. "Which debt so discharged amounted to two millions six hundred and ninety-eighty thousand "four hundred and sixteen pounds nine shillings and seven pence three farthings, since "Christmas 1716.—That by the several reductions from six to five, and from five now to four "per cent. on the greatest part of the public debts, so great savings of interest have been "made, that the said Sinking-fund may now be estimated to be about one million two "hundred thousand pounds per annum; and will be every year increasing from the further "savings of the interest of the remaining debts from time to time, as they shall be paid off. "Which increase of the Sinking-fund from four hundred thousand pounds, to about one "million two hundred thousand pounds," (since midsummer 1727) "being in the hands of "the government, and applicable from time to time to the discharge of the principal, makes "a gain and profit to the public equal to the discharge of one-third of the principal debt; so "that the said additional eight hundred thousand pounds to the sinking fund, if valued at "twenty-five years purchase at which rate all annuities are now currently sold, makes a real

"profit

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1728 " profit to the public of twenty millions.—And if, notwithſtanding the many difficulties this " nation has laboured under, by an unnatural rebellion, and by the many heinous plots and " conſpiracies ſince formed, for overturning the religion and liberties of our country: and " notwithſtanding the embroiled condition of the affairs of Europe,—we have been able to " diminiſh the national debts ſo much already; what may we not hope for in regard to a " ſpeedy and ſenſible diſcharge of them for the future?" Upon which repreſentation we ſhall " only in brief remark, as many have before done, that although the then and ſucceeding adminiſtration had afterwards many ſuch difficulties to ſtruggle with as are above enumerated, more ſurely might have been done for increaſing the ſinking fund, by abſolutely preſerving it inviolable; although it be allowed, that it would have been attended with many and great difficulties, conſidering that a ſecond unnatural rebellion, and two very expenſive wars have happened ſince that repreſentation was made. What is paſt needs not to be enlarged on; but ſurely hereafter, eſpecially in times of peace, a determined national frugality ought zealouſly to be cultivated;* and it is earneſtly to be hoped and wiſhed, that, in order to increaſe this ſinking fund, the public might be enabled to avail itſelf of a rational reduction of the ſalaries of many uſeleſs offices and employments in the revenue, &c. the fee-ſimple whereof, it is humbly apprehended, would probably amount to a greater ſum than perhaps many may apprehend, were it made the object of a ſtrict enquiry.

In a vindication of the iſland of Jamaica at this time, from certain aſperſions on the conduct of the planters and of their aſſembly, and pleading for ſome favours from the legiſlature of Great Britain; it was computed as follows; viz.

" That the trade of that iſland employs three hundred ſail of ſhips and above ſix thouſand " ſeamen, and that the very duties on the imports from thence amount to near one hundred " thouſand pounds per annum.—That there are eight fine harbours in it, beſide many coves " and bays where ſhips may ſafely ride: there are alſo eighty-four rivers which diſcharge into " the ſea, and ſeven times as many leſſer rivers and ſprings which run into them.—That its " principal productions, beſide ſugars, are cotton, ginger, Piemento, mahogany wood, log- " wood, and indigo. That very little of the four laſt named commodities are imported from " the reſt of the Britiſh plantations: ſo that, but for Jamaica, we ſhould be obliged to pur- " chaſe them of the French, Dutch, and other nations.—That cotton is neceſſary to work " up with wool in many of our manufactures, &c.—Ginger is chiefly exported, though great " quantities are likewiſe uſed at home.—Their Piemento leſſens the conſumption of ſpices, " which are only to be had of the Dutch at their own rates.—That indigo, logwood, fuſtick, " &c. are uſed by dyers, and are abſolutely neceſſary in many of our manufactures; and that " before we had thoſe commodities of our own, we paid five times the prices for them we now " do, and for ſome of them more.—That, before our Weſt India plantations were ſettled, " we paid the Portugueſe from four to five pound per hundred weight for Muſcovado ſugar, " now ſold from twenty-two to thirty-five ſhillings, as in goodneſs.—And above five pound " per hundred for ginger, now commonly ſold at twenty-two ſhillings and ſixpence.—That " our dyers wares were bought of the Spaniards, to whom we paid for logwood from one " hundred to one hundred and thirty pound per ton, which may now be had at nine pounds " per ton; and other goods uſed in dying, proportionably. So that, by having thoſe plan- " tations, we not only ſave ſo much as was formerly paid for thoſe commodities to foreigners,

* *Non intelligunt Homines quantum* Vectigal *ſit* Parſimonia! CICERO.

" but

A. D. 1728 "but we are also able to furnish other nations therewith: and our manufacturers, by having "them at less prices than they formerly had them, are enabled to sell their commodities pro-"portionably cheaper, which is undoubtedly a great advantage to the nation."—Boyer's Political State of Great Britain, vol. xxv. for February 1728.

This vindication, or survey of the benefits of Jamaica, and of our West India colonies to their mother-country, places them in such an advantageous light, and gives also so clear, though succinct, a view of our commerce with them, as well merits a place in this work.

In this same year, the Danish East India Company, residing at Copenhagen, published proposals for a new subscription to be taken at Altena, near Hamburg, for enlarging their ancient capital stock.

I. "The new subscribers to be equally entitled to all the benefits and privileges, which the "old members possess, in respect of the trade, shipping, forts, settlements, revenues, houses, "and other effects whatever.

II. "The old capital, consisting of two hundred and fifty thousand rix-dollars, divided into "two hundred and fifty shares, each being of one thousand rix-dollars, to retain likewise "equal benefits with the new subscribers.

III. "The company, after this union with the new subscribers, were in their joint capa-"city to pay off their entire debts, consisting of one hundred and sixty thousand rix-dollars: "but the old proprietors were not to be entitled to any dividend till the year 1733.

IV. The actions, or shares, of the new subscribers, to consist of one thousand rix-dollars "each, and the half-shares to be five hundred rix-dollars: for each transfer to pay two rix-"dollars to the company, and half a one to the poor.

V. The Company's creditors may take new actions thereof for the debts due to them.

VI. The King, by his octroi, declares, that the shares shall not be liable to any seizure or "stop, upon any account whatever."—It is scarce necessary to inform the reader, that Denmark is an absolute monarchy.

VII. "The money, arising by new subscriptions, to be wholly employed for sending out "ships to Tranquebar," (their own fort on the coast of Coromandel) "Bengal, and China.

VIII. "The four additional or new directors may be all foreigners; and ten shares to be "the qualification-stock of every director. Every single share shall have one vote in the ge-"neral courts; and a proprietor of twenty shares shall have twenty votes; and none shall "have more than twenty, however numerous their shares may be.

IX. "If any two directors shall be dissatisfied with the conduct of the other directors, they "may summon a general court to acquaint the company therewith.

X. "The general courts have plenary powers to do whatever they shall judge convenient "for the advantage of the company.

XI. "The new shares to be subscribed shall not exceed two thousand two hundred and "fifty, *i. e.* in the whole; and the new or additional stock shall not exceed two millions two "hundred and fifty thousand rix-dollars."

N. B. There were twenty-five other articles of lesser importance, and are therefore omitted. To these proposals the old company, in order to remove any objections which might be made in respect to their then existing circumstances, added, "That they had very valuable "effects, such as, the town of Tranquebar, a very important place, with two hundred pieces "of cannon, beside ammunition, and a yearly income of ten thousand crowns, and also seve-"ral duties and revenues, increasing every year in proportion to the increase of inhabitants.

"That,

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1728 " That, besides, they have the castle of Danneburg, on the rich coast of Coromandel, conveniently situated for trade, and particularly for pearls and diamonds: also, Porto-novo on the same coast; two ships, with their cargoes now at sea, bound to Tranquebar, and some other ships and factories, &c." From all which particulars, a nearly exact state of the Danish East India Company's circumstances and commerce may be gathered; not much, however, to their advantage.

Ships arriving at London from foreign ports, between Christmas 1727 and Christmas 1728, viz. British ships, one thousand eight hundred and thirty-nine: foreign ships, two hundred and thirteen: coasters, six thousand eight hundred and thirty-seven; in all, eight thousand eight hundred and eighty-nine ships; which number is, of later years, considerably increased.

By an act of the British Parliament, in the second year of King George the Second, For raising the sum of one million two hundred and fifty thousand pounds, by sale of annuities to the Bank of England, &c. that corporation advanced the said sum to the public, at four per cent interest, charged on the surplusses of the fund of lottery 1714; redeemable from Midsummer 1730, by payment of not less than five hundred thousand pounds at a time. Yet this receiving of so low an interest, obliged the Bank to lower their dividend from three to two and three quarters per cent. at Midsummer 1730, for that half year.

In this same year 1729, the Hamlet of Spital-fields, long since become a vastly extended suburb, chiefly by the very great number of silk manufacturers therein, and in which new streets were more and more increasing, was, by an act of Parliament, For making the said Hamlet a new Parish, &c. accordingly so made, and endowed as one of the fifty new churches, by the name of Christ Church; this parish was before a part of the parish of St. Dunstan's, Stepney.

And by another act of the said second year of King George the Second, another new parish was erected in the Hamlet of Wapping-Stepney, also taken out of the parish of St. Dunstan, Stepney, by the name of St. George in the East, situated in the street named Ratcliffe Highway: that eastern suburb being of late years considerably increased by the increase of our commerce and shipping.

By a statute of this second year of King George the Second, For making more effectual several Acts passed relating to Watermen, Wherrymen, and Lightermen, rowing on the River Thames, and for better ordering and governing them, the several following regulations were made; as,

I. " No waterman, &c. but a housekeeper, or who at least has some known place of abode, shall take an apprentice, under ten pounds penalty: and such apprentice to be duly registered, as well as the master, and also his place of abode, by the Clerk of the Watermens Company: and on neglect of so registering any apprentice, and also the master's place of abode, that company may turn the said apprentice over to another master.

II. " No apprentice shall be trusted with the sole care of a boat, between Gravesend and Windsor, till he be sixteen years of age, if a waterman's son; or seventeen years of age, if a landman's son, under the penalty of ten shillings on the master.

III. " None but such as shall have served seven years to any waterman, wherryman, or lighterman, except Trinity-house men, fishermen, ballast-men, and persons employed in rowing or navigating western barges, mill boats, chalk hoys, faggot and wood lighters, dung boats and gardeners boats: in such manner as has been accustomed by allowance of a

 former

A. D. 1729 " former ſtatute, ſhall row, or cauſe to be rowed or worked, any boat, wherry, lighter, or " other veſſel, on the ſaid river for hire or gain; on forfeiture of ten pounds, or elſe impri- " ſonment. Yet owners of keys, or quays, between the Hermitage Bridge and London " Bridge, may uſe their large craft or lighters as heretofore, for the carrying of goods and " merchandize to and from their keys, and to and from ſhips, and to employ therein water- " men, &c. duly qualified. Penalties to be raiſed by the rulers of the Watermens Company " for the benefit of their poor."

The laſt ſtatute we ſhall mention of this ſecond year of King George the Second, is, An Act for the better Preſervation of his Majeſty's Woods in America, and for the Encouragement of the Importation of Naval Stores from thence; and to encourage the Importation of Maſts, Yards, and Bowſprits from Scotland. Which, after reciting a former ſtatute for this purpoſe, enacts:

Firſt, " That from the twenty-ninth of September, 1729, no perſon in the colonies of " Nova Scotia, alſo in New Hampſhire, the province of Maine, the Maſſachuſett's Bay, " Rhode Iſland, and Providence Plantation; the Naraganſet Country, or King's Province, " and Connecticut, all in New England; as alſo, in New York and New Jerſey, in Ame- " rica; or in any province of America, now belonging, or that ſhall hereafter belong to the " crown of Great Britain; ſhall preſume to cut, fell, or deſtroy any white pine trees, fit for " maſting the royal navy; except only ſuch as are the property of private perſons, notwith- " ſtanding the ſaid trees do or may grow within the limits of any townſhip laid out, or to be " laid out hereafter, without his Majeſty's royal licence firſt obtained.

Secondly, " And whereas King William and Queen Mary's charter, in the third year of " their reign, granted to the province of the Maſſachuſett's Bay, did reſerve to themſelves and " ſucceſſors all trees of the diameter of twenty-four inches and upwards, at twelve inches from " the ground, growing in that province, on any ſoil or ground not before granted to any pri- " vate perſons; in order, therefore, to make that reſervation more effectual, it was now " enacted, that no perſon within the ſaid province ſhall ſo cut and deſtroy any ſuch white " pine trees, on any land or ſoil, not granted to private perſons before the ſeventh of Octo- " ber 1690, under the penalties of the act of the eighth of King George I.

Thirdly, " New and more moderate premiums are granted for the following naval ſtores to be " raiſed and imported from America," (needleſs to be hereagain recited) " viz. maſts, yards, " bowſprits, good tar, pitch and turpentine: and ſuch naval ſtores imported ſhall repay thoſe " premiums, when re-exported.—A premium is alſo enacted for the importation of maſts, " yards, and bowſprits from Scotland, where" as this act ſets forth, " there are in ſundry " parts great ſtore of pine and fir trees."—But ſo great is the difficulty to bring them down to ſea-ports, as has rendered that part of this act, and of that of the eighth of King George I. quite impracticable.

On the twelfth of October 1729, the King of Denmark, by a new charter to his Eaſt India Company, takes it into his immediate protection, intending to make it one of the moſt flouriſhing of any in Europe. The ſubſtance of which charter is, viz.

I. " He grants the Company forty years after the expiration of its preſent term: dur- " ing which time, none but ſuch as ſhall be authoriſed by them, ſhall carry on any com- " merce beyond the Cape of Good Hope, on forfeiture to this company of their ſhips and " merchandize.

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1729 II. " The company's ſhips and merchandize ſhall, on no pretence, be arreſted, detained, " or ſearched.

III. " The capital ſtock ſhall be exempted from all duties and impoſitions, either in time " of war or peace; and even the ſtock of the ſubjects of ſuch nations, with whom the Daniſh " King may, at any time, be at enmity, ſhall not be ſtopped or ſeized on any pretence what- " ever.

IV. " This new company ſhall conſiſt of ſeven hundred and fifty ſhares, of one thouſand " crowns each, (Daniſh) including the ſtock of the old company, being two hundred and " fifty thouſand crowns. There ſhall alſo be half ſhares of five hundred crowns each."

N. B. This is a royal eſtabliſhment of the propoſals of this company, in the preceding year, with ſome variation.

At length, in November 1729, was concluded the famous treaty of Seville, between Great Britain, France, and Spain; for peace, union, friendſhip, and mutual defence: by which thoſe three great powers,

I. " Renew all former treaties of peace and friendſhip.

II. " They mutually guarantee each others dominions, and the rights and privileges of " their commerce, in what parts ſoever of the world; each potentate for this end to furniſh " eight thouſand foot and four thouſand horſe: or elſe ſhips of war and tranſports; or elſe " again in money inſtead of either.

III. " The Britiſh and French courts having alleged that, in the treaty of Vienna, in the " year 1725, there were divers clauſes, which infringed the articles of ſeveral treaties of com- " merce; his Catholic Majeſty declares, that he never meant to grant, by virtue of the ſaid " treaty, any privilege contrary to the above-named privileges and treaties.

IV. V. " All neceſſary orders ſhall be diſpatched on both ſides for the execution of former " treaties of commerce both with the Engliſh and French nations.

VI. VII. " Commiſſaries ſhall be appointed on both ſides, between their Britannic and " Catholic Majeſties, in four months time, to examine and decide what concerns the ſhips " and effects taken at ſea, and the reſpective allegations relative to abuſes in commerce, as " well in Europe as in America. As alſo with reſpect to France and Spain.

VIII. " The ſaid commiſſaries ſhall finiſh their commiſſion within three years, or ſooner if " poſſible.

IX. X. XI. XII. XIII. " Theſe articles relate to the placing of Spaniſh garriſons into " Leghorn, Porto Ferajo, Parma, and Placentia, for the eventual ſucceſſion of Don Carlos " to Tuſcany, Parma, and Placentia: all the contracting parties agreeing to guarantee the ſaid " ſucceſſion.

XIV. " The States General of the United Provinces ſhall be invited to accede to this trea- " ty:"—as they ſoon after did in this ſame month and year.

By the two ſeparate articles of the treaty of Seville, it was more expreſsly ſtipulated, for the greater exactneſs, that the treaties of peace and commerce at Utrecht, between Great Britain and Spain, in which are comprized the treaty of 1667 and of 1715, as alſo the Aſſiento con- " tract of 1713, and its farther explanation in the year 1716, ſhall from this day, even during the examination by the commiſſaries, remain in full force and vigour; for which end, the Catholic King ſhall diſpatch his cedulas to his vice-roys, &c. in America as well as in Europe, as ſhall alſo his Britannic Majeſty to his governors, &c. for the releaſe of all ſhips and

2 mer-

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1729 merchandize; and, particularly, the South Sea Company's ship, Prince Frederick, and her cargo, shall be immediately restored: all which was under the before named guarantee.

In the accession of the States General of the United Provinces, they were to furnish only four thousand foot and one thousand horse; and on the part of the other allies, they were to guarantee the abolishing the Ostend East India Company, &c. and the Catholic King engages, that entire satisfaction shall be given them (*i. e.* the Dutch) for their grievances, as well in the West Indies as in Europe, and to re-establish their commerce, agreeable to former treaties: and, lastly, to grant them all the commercial privileges enjoyed by the most favoured nations.

In this same year, the South Sea Company's twenty-three ships went out on the whale fishery; and, one of them being lost, the other twenty-two ships brought home twenty-seven whales and a half; which was still a losing trade; the company's net loss by this single year's trade, beside wear and tear, being six thousand nine hundred and four pounds eight shillings and four pence.

In this same year, the East India Company of the United Netherlands obtained of the States General, a prolongation of their octroi or charter of an exclusive trade to India, for twenty-one years beyond their present term: for which privilege that company paid into the treasury of the republic three million six hundred thousand guilders, or about three hundred and thirty thousand pounds sterling, their power, pomp, and wealth in India, and more especially in the isle of Java, even at this time equalling those of some considerable monarchs.

In the province of Pennsylvania, great improvements were constantly making in commerce, shipping, and agriculture: many ships and sloops were continually building at Philadelphia, Newcastle, &c. which they mostly dispose of to our sugar colonies, and the rest they use in the carrying their own product, consisting of cask staves, lumber, pork, pease, flour, biscuit, &c. in exchange for sugar, rum, melasses, and Spanish money. Great numbers of Germans are annually adding to this already populous province, as well from Britain as Ireland. The following is a list of the people arrived there from Europe in the year 1729, viz.

English and Welch passengers and servants - - -	267
Scots servants - - - - - -	43
Irish passengers and servants - - - - -	1,155
Palatine passengers - - - - - -	243
And, in Newcastle government alone, there arrived this year, of passengers and servants, mostly from Ireland, (by reason of rack-rents there, as it is said) about - - - - - -	4,500
Total arrived in this year only -	6,208

It is no matter, then, for surprize, that this province was in such a thriving state; its constitution being, moreover, so excellent, and the encouragement afforded to new comers, by absolute freedom, liberty of conscience, lenity of laws, gentle taxes, &c. so as really to be a pattern for all other governments on the continent.

As party-rage ran very high at this time, viz. in the year 1729, the friends of the ministry found themselves obliged to prove, by fact, what was before generally known to be undoubtedly true, that Britain was then in a thriving condition, viz.

U 2 1. By

1729 I. By the low intereſt of money, thereby evidently demonſtrating a greater plenty of money than formerly.

II. This plenty of money has raiſed the price of lands from twenty and twenty-one years, to twenty-five, twenty-ſix, and twenty-ſeven years purchaſe. An evident proof that there are more perſons able and ready to purchaſe land than formerly.

III. Another clear evidence of our improved wealth in Britain is, the great ſums of late expended in the incloſing and improving of lands, and in opening of mines.

IV. In the great increaſe of jewels, plate, and other rich moveables, much beyond elder times.

V. The increaſed value of our woollen goods exported in ſix years, ending at Chriſtmas 1727, (the account of the year 1728 not being as yet made up) which exceeds the value of the ſix preceding years, by four hundred and ſeventy-five thouſand pounds. And the ſame may be ſaid of the increaſe of our exportations of coals, lead, tin, and lead ore.

VI. The like increaſe of foreign goods exported, which in the laſt three years exceeded in value the three preceding years by five hundred and thirty-five thouſand pounds.

VII. Laſtly, there will be found an increaſe in the tonnage of the ſhipping of England, in the laſt ſix years beyond what it was in the preceding ſix years, of two hundred and thirty-eight thouſand tons. All which are undoubted marks of increaſing wealth, and of the general balance of trade running in our favour.

As for the only two objections, viz.

Firſt, The courſe of exchange between us and Holland, running to our diſadvantage: and,

Secondly, Our great paper credit.

The firſt is to be accounted for by Amſterdam's being, as it were, the center of exchanges to and from all parts of Europe, and particularly between Britain and Holland, and thence between us and moſt other nations, and conſequently, that the great ſums of intereſt in our public funds, chiefly remitted by way of Amſterdam, and the frequent ſelling out of foreigners in our funds, as the intereſt thereon becomes gradually leſſened more and more: alſo the great importations of corn in the years of ſcarcity, from Dantzic, Hamburg, and the Netherlands, which, in the ſingle year 1728, amounted to eight hundred thouſand pounds paid for by the way of Holland. Moreover, the balance we pay to the northern countries, for our moſt neceſſary naval ſtores, &c. being moſtly remitted by the way of Amſterdam, is one conſiderable cauſe of the exchange thither running ſometimes againſt us. Theſe and ſimilar reaſons may well account for the courſe of exchange being in a retrograde ſtate between us and Holland; which therefore cannot be a juſt or certain rule to determine the balance of trade, or whether the wealth of Britain be increaſing or decreaſing.

Laſtly, As we have ſufficiently ſhewn in the Introduction to this work, the increaſe of paper credit proves quite the contrary of what the objectors intend, ſince it is not the cauſe, but the demonſtrable effect and proof of national riches.

1730 The Engliſh Eaſt India Company's term for the redemption of their capital, and of their excluſive trade, being near its expiration, viz. on three years notice from Lady-day 1733, a powerful and ſtrenuous oppoſition to its renewal or prolongation was, at this time, raiſed by certain merchants and gentlemen, who foreſeeing that the company would apply to the legiſlature for a longer time in their excluſive privileges, determined to be before-hand with them; and

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1730 and therefore in February 1730 (N. S.) they presented to the House of Commons their petition and proposals, viz.

" They offered to advance three millions two hundred thousand pounds for redeeming the " fund of the company, by five several payments, the last to be at Lady-day 1733, to be al- " lowed an interest of four per cent. till the last-named term, and only two per cent. from " and after that term: provided,

" I. That they might be incorporated, and in all respects vested with the exclusive privi- " leges and trade of that company: yet so, as not to trade in one joint stock or in their cor- " porate capacity; but that the trade should be free and open to all his Majesty's subjects, " who should pay one per cent. of the value of their exports to India, in consideration of " their taking out a licence from this proposed corporation. Provided also,

" That this trade be solely carried on from the port of London. And,

" III. That this proposed company's term be thirty-one years, and to be redeemed on three " years notice.

" IV. That, moreover, for enabling this proposed corporation to defray the expence of " forts and settlements in India, as well as the preservation and enlargement of the trade, they " may be empowered to levy a duty of five per cent. on the gross value of all the merchandize " which shall be imported from India."

The benefits to the public, by this proposal, they set forth, in brief, to be,

" I. That by receiving but two per cent. interest, an annuity of ninety-two thousand " pounds would be added to the sinking fund, which, at twenty-five years purchase, was " worth two millions five hundred thousand pounds to the public.

" II. That, as the laying open the trade to Africa is acknowledged to be attended with " great national advantages; so the thus laying open the trade to the East Indies, or the re- " ducing it into a kind of regulated company, will be attended with the following advantages, " viz. It will necessarily occasion a larger exportation of our own product and manufactures " to India.

" III. It will employ a much greater number of ships and seamen.

" IV. It will greatly lower the prices of all East India commodities consumed at home.

" V. It will enable us to supply foreign markets, cheaper and in greater quantities, with " Indian merchandize; whereby some new branches of traffic may be gained and others pre- " served, more especially in Africa and America, and also in some parts of Europe." Here the proposers should have been more explicit.

" VI. It will necessarily advance the customs and excise, and thereby lessen the national " debt, &c.

" VII. They allege," but give no particular reason for such their allegation, " that great " advantages may accrue by employing our shipping in freights, from one part of India to " another, more than the present company has ever been able to do.

" VIII. It will prevent persons, acquainted with the trade to India, from being under the " necessity, for want of employment here, of seeking it in foreign nations, and even will " bring home those who are already engaged that way." This had a reference to certain Englishmen engaged in the Ostend and Swedish East India Companies.

These were the plausible and principal arguments made use of to the legislature, or within doors: which yet were more abundantly amplified and improved without doors, in several printed

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1730. printed pamphlets and newſpapers, which carried them, as is uſually the caſe, much beyond rational probability.

Their out-door arguments or inducements, for alluring of ſubſcribers to this ſcheme, were,

"I. Certain intereſt, from the public, of four per cent. for the firſt two years, and two "per cent. certain afterwards.

"II. The additional annual profit ariſing from the before-named licences.

"III. The five per cent. on all goods imported would bring a conſiderable ſurplus over "and above the expence of ſupporting the forts and factories; ſince," as they alleged, "the "preſent company's forts and ſettlements do, one with another, more than anſwer their own "expence. And even although this propoſed company ſhould be obliged to pay the preſent "company a ſum of money for their forts and ſettlements;" could theſe propoſers make any doubt of ſo juſt and equitable a point? "yet in a few years there would a further annual "profit accrue, ariſing from the ſaid duties. For,

"IV. Even ſuppoſing the trade, under this propoſed company, ſhould not increaſe," as however they were confident it would, "beyond the amount of three millions yearly, at the "public ſales; yet five per cent. thereon would yield one hundred and fifty thouſand pounds "per annum, which makes eighty-ſix thouſand pounds more than will compleat the annuity "or intereſt of four per cent. Wherefore,

"V. It may be concluded, that the annual dividend will not at any time be leſs than five "to ſix per cent. to the ſubſcribers; ſince, as the exportations and importations ſhall increaſe, "in like proportion will the dividends neceſſarily increaſe."

Yet, notwithſtanding all the before-mentioned and ſimilar plauſible reaſonings, without doors, and of all that their friends could urge within doors; the Houſe of Commons rejected their petition, becauſe,

Firſt, It was certainly, at leaſt, hazardous to turn the Eaſt India trade into a new channel.

Secondly, It was uncertain, whether the propoſed ſubſcription would readily fill in due time.

Thirdly, Or whether their flattering expectations would anſwer, either with reſpect to the ſubſcribers, or to the nation.

Fourthly, Whether the King's cuſtoms might not be diminiſhed inſtead of being increaſed.

Fifthly, Whether by the new method of a regulated trade, the nation's general commerce to India might not in ſome degree be hurt and diminiſhed? For who can foreſee all the advantages which other European nations, trading to India, would be able to gain over us by this alteration, or the hurt our trade might receive from the Indian Princes, &c. To quit therefore a preſent certainty for a future (though plauſible) uncertainty, was not judged ſafe nor prudent.

This ſame oppoſition, however, drew from the preſent company very conſiderable advantages to the public.

Firſt, By occaſioning the company to give up one per cent. of the intereſt payable on their capital of three millions two hundred thouſand pounds. And,

Secondly, To pay, moreover, for the benefit of the public two hundred thouſand pounds for the ſervice of the current year, over and above the ſaid abatement of one per cent. of their intereſt, viz. from five to four per cent. or from one hundred and ſixty thouſand pounds to one hundred and twenty-eight thouſand pounds per annum, whereby thirty-two thouſand

pound

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1730 pounds per annum would be immediately added to the sinking fund, which the company nevertheless were legally entitled to for six years longer.

Whilst the bill was depending in Parliament, abundance of anonymous letters and essays were published in pamphlets and newspapers, against exclusive companies in general, and more especially against this company's exclusive trade, in particular: all the arguments which had been advanced for above one hundred years past, of which we have largely treated in this work, against monopolies in this and other mercantile companies, being on this occasion brought again into the light, and re-published, with some few new improvements. "They were for "having the government to take the support of the forts, factories, embassies, &c. in India, "into their own hands, out of the large customs on the India trade, which should thence-"forth remain free and open to all British subjects. For," say they, "the more free and "open that trade is, the more profitable it will be to the nation. And although it may be "true, that the laying the East India trade open, would lessen the profit of individuals in that "trade, by striving to out-do and undersell one another; yet the gain to the nation would," in their opinion, "be vastly greater, as the emulous private adventurers, by thrusting them-"selves into new ports and countries, in Arabia, Persia, India, China, &c. would undoubt-"edly occasion the exporting of much more of our manufactures and product than the com-"pany can do. And that, on the other hand, a joint stock company can never trade so "frugally and advantageously, either for themselves or for the nation, being in fact but one "buyer and one seller. Who, moreover, manage their trade with a pride and expence more "becoming the state of Kings than of merchants; and their governors and agents in India "live like Princes." And so they undoubtedly would do under a regulated company, or if they were under the King's immediate authority, being at so vast a distance from Europe. "They also expect to be followed by the markets, and therefore do not stir from their ware-"houses. Whereas, on the contrary, private traders would follow the markets, would push "into every creek and corner, and would narrowly look into the conduct of their agents in "India. That the abolishing of the present company would, moreover, destroy the perni-"cious practice of stock jobbing, so fatal to persons and families. That when almost all the "maritime nations of Europe are now running into this trade, which will naturally diminish "our own commerce thither; it seems the most effectual means for driving them out of this "trade to lay it open to all our people." These and other similar arguments, (some of which were at least inconclusive, if not fallacious) were freely urged, both within and without doors, and were supported by many eminent merchants.

Lastly, For further corroborating the opposition to the bill for prolonging the East India Company's privileges, three several petitions were presented to the House of Commons:

The first, from the merchants, traders, &c. of London, in behalf of themselves and all other his Majesty's subjects.

The second, from those of Bristol:

And the third, from those of Liverpool; all to the same effect, viz. against confirming the exclusive trade to India to the present company alone: and for obliging that company to grant licences to the rest of his Majesty's subjects to trade thither, under proper terms and conditions: also praying to be heard by their counsel at the bar of the House, against passing the said bill: which petitions were rejected.

On the other hand, it is but justice to the present East India Company, to exhibit the principal points then so judiciously by them urged, by way of reply, in their own behalf, viz.

"1. That

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1730 " I. That at present it seems to be agreed on all sides, that the East India trade is a beneficial one to this nation, and consequently is necessary to be preserved. But the principal "question, is, which is the best method to preserve it to us, viz. whether by a company "vested with exclusive privileges and regulations, such as the legislature shall from time to "time direct; or, whether the trade shall be left quite open to every adventurer who shall "pay for a licence from this company.

" II. It is but too probable, that the present determined opposition to the company proceeds, in a great measure, from the great gains which the company makes: for the enemies "of this company are forced to go back almost forty years to search out former mismanagements; having nothing to allege against their present conduct.

" III. That the company at present employs a vast stock in trade, their sales amounting to "about three millions yearly. And the customs accruing to the public are immensely great, "and answer the appropriations made of them by Parliament better than most other duties; "they bringing in net money, clear of all drawbacks and debentures, three hundred thousand "pounds yearly. Would it then be prudent in the legislature to let them," *i. e.* the said custom, " fall without a certainty of at least as much in the room of them.

" IV. That the forts and factories do at present cost the company three hundred thousand "pounds yearly; and doubtless the government could not maintain them for so little. That "those forts and other buildings are questionless the company's property, who actually purchased them of the old company, and are of very great value; who, then, shall set an "equitable price on them? What certainty have the government, when they are in their "hands, that the proposed open trade will be always sufficient to maintain so vast an expence "of customs and forts as six hundred thousand pounds yearly? For, as every man is, by the "proposed scheme, left at liberty, (and will, without doubt, make use of it) to trade or not "to trade thither, as it may suit his interest; it may happen, that one year there may go fifty "ships for India, and another year perhaps not five. And these being all separate traders, "the government can have no certainty nor security from them, nor indeed from any other "but an incorporated body, who have a great deal to lose, and who are able to bear the ill "fortune of some particular years trading, without presently laying it aside.

" V. That by the separate traders out-bidding one another in India, for the sake of dispatch, the prices of goods there would be raised so high, as at length not to be worth the "buying. And, for the like reason, at home they would so under-sell each other till the "goods would not be worth selling; which was the case for the small time that the two "companies (the old and the new ones) and the separate traders contended against each other; "whereby they all did very much hurt the trade.

" VI. That an united company will always be more diligent to watch the encroachments "and attempts of other European nations in India than separate traders will or can be, "whose views naturally are contracted within the narrow circle of their own private interest alone.

" VII. That although the company have a claim to a perpetuity in this trade, by the act of "the tenth of Queen Anne, cap. xxviii. yet, some doubts arising touching the certainty of "this right, because that act only repeals the provisoes in former acts, which directed that "the privileges of trade should cease when the fund should be redeemed, but does not explicitly enact a perpetuity of this trade to the company, in the same terms as the act of that "same session expressly does in favour of the South Sea Company. This company, being

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1730 "unwilling that their title to this trade (however ſtrong) ſhould prove the occaſion of diſ-"putes hereafter, are therefore content to take up with a temporary certainty in lieu thereof, "and, moreover, to give the public almoſt four hundred thouſand pounds for the ſame, by "giving two hundred thouſand pounds in money, and further conſenting that their annuity "of five per cent. which is not redeemable till the year 1736, be now reduced to four per "cent. whereby they loſe an annuity of thirty-two thouſand pounds for ſix years to come, "valued at one hundred and ninety-two thouſand pounds."

Some other leſs important arguments were at this time advanced on both ſides, which are not neceſſary to be particulariſed, becauſe already mentioned in other parts of this work, from the very commencement of the trade to India. And as there is in reality nothing new which can be hereafter advanced on this truly important ſubject, on either ſide, now and formerly ſo fully explained; we ſhall hereafter ſpare ourſelves the needleſs trouble of enlarging thereon in any future controverſy, concerning the Eaſt India commerce; after aſſuring the reader, that the author of this work has ſtudied impartiality in this, as in other parts of the work, as much as poſſible.

To conclude, the legiſlature paſſed the bill in the company's favour, entitled, An Act (in the third of George the Second) for reducing the Annuity or Fund of the united Eaſt India Company, and for aſcertaining their Right of Trade to the Eaſt Indies, and the continuance of their Corporation for that Purpoſe, upon the Terms therein mentioned. Whereby, after a full recital of former ſtatutes and charters, the company agrees, and it is enacted, "That "their preſent yearly fund of one hundred and ſixty thouſand pounds be reduced to one hun-"dred and twenty-eight thouſand pounds, or from five to four per cent. from Michaelmas "1730; in conſideration whereof, and of two hundred thouſand pounds to be paid by them, "for the public ſervice of this preſent year 1730, all their excluſive privileges of trade to the "Eaſt Indies are continued and prolonged from Lady-day 1736, to Lady-day 1766, and three "years notice then to be given; in all, including the ſaid three years notice, to Lady-day "1769, being thirty-three years; when, on repayment of their entire capital of three millions "two hundred thouſand pounds, their excluſive privileges of trade ſhall ceaſe and determine. "Yet, nevertheleſs, the company ſhall continue as a corporation for ever, to enjoy the Eaſt "India trade in common with all other ſubjects."

There was in this act one ſingle clauſe only, of any importance, which had not been in any former ſtatute relating to this company, and aroſe from a doubt maliciouſly and unaccountably ſtarted by the company's enemies, viz. whether the three years notice ſhould be fully expired before they loſe their excluſive privileges. That clauſe therefore enacted, "That, "upon the expiration of the ſaid three years, and repayment, &c. as above, their excluſive "right ſhall ceaſe."

We have been the fuller here, on the objections againſt this company, becauſe the objections again ſtarted, in the year 1754, for the ſame private ends, in certain pamphlets and newſpapers, were the very ſame as now exhibited; there not being one ſingle argument or objection then advanced, any way eſſentially different from thoſe before-named; for the ſubject has been ſo long canvaſſed by men of judgment and experience, that no room is at length left to ſay any thing materially new on the ſubject.

"The company, moreover, at any time, on one year's notice after Lady-day 1736, might "be paid off their whole capital, by any payments not leſs than five hundred thouſand pounds "at a time: and ſo on, from time to time, on ſuch yearly notices by Parliament." The

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1730 company were hereby "likewise debarred from possessing in Great Britain, lands, tenements, "&c. exceeding ten thousand pounds yearly rent. Lastly, two general provisos were added, "for saving the privileges, &c. of the South Sea and Levant Companies."

In consequence of this reduction of the company's fund, they first reduced their half yearly dividend from eight to seven per cent. at Christmas 1732.

The Royal African Company, declining more and more, so as not to be able to support their forts and factories, on the coast of Africa, and the trade being thereby laid open, so as to endanger them, the British Parliament, in this same year, granted ten thousand pounds for that purpose, by an Act for raising five Hundred and fifty Thousand Pounds by Exchequer-bills, &c. of this third year of King George the Second: which sum of ten thousand pounds was granted by Parliament annually till the year 1744, when, in consequence of the war with France and Spain, twenty thousand pounds was granted for that end: the two following years ten thousand pounds was again granted annually for the same purpose: but nothing was granted for the year 1747.

The South Sea Company's remaining twenty-two Greenland ships brought home twelve whales in the year 1730: and their net loss by this year's fishery was eight thousand nine hundred and twenty-one pounds five shillings and nine-pence, beside wear and tear.

The French East India Company's trade by this time was become so considerable, that, instead of one ship from India once in two years, there arrived four ships from thence in this year 1730.

Yet so much superior was the English East India Company's trade, that in the spring of this same year 1730, there sailed no fewer than seventeen ships from India.

In the British American provinces of Pennsylvania, Virginia, and Maryland, there were about this time found mines of iron-stone, which they soon after learned to smelt down into pigs and sows, and then to draw them out by flatting mills into bars. They have also found lead; and they had before found copper in New York.

In this same year, the South Sea Company's great ship, the Prince Frederic, which had been long detained at La Vera Cruz, in the Spanish West Indies, occasioned by the differences between Great Britain and Spain, arrived safe in the Thames, laden, for that company's account, with four hundred thousand dollars or Spanish pieces of eight in specie, one hundred and ninety thousand pounds weight of cochineal, forty-seven thousand pounds weight of indigo, and one hundred and sixty-seven ton weight of logwood, beside what came in private trade: supposed altogether to be worth three hundred and fifty thousand pounds sterling.

So unusual a quantity of cochineal, in the company's fine vaults, gave occasion to the author of this work to carry down thither two physicians, (long since dead) who after a very particular examination, were quite satisfied that the said insect was, in all respects, the same with our British lady-bird: and that it was purely by that insect's feeding on the fine red juice or sap of the Mexico shrub or tree, called the Prickly Pear, that this lady-bird acquired its superior excellence, agreeable to what had before been asserted by divers authors.

We may here also, for once at least, present our readers with a list of the chief exportations and importations for the single month of May, in the year 1730, from London only, viz.

Exported—Woollen cloth, long, short, and Spanish		—	5,357	pieces.
Bays, Colchester, &c.	—	—	6,990	
Stuffs, druggets, &c.	—	—	24,484	
Perpets and serges	—	—	4,108	

Exported—

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Exported—	Dozens and kersies	1,879	pieces.
	Hats, per dozen,	2,028	dozens.
	Hose, per dozen,	9,368	
	Flannel and cotton	53,053	yards.
	Frise	7,858	
	Gartering	774	gross.
	Leather	2,290	hundred weight.
	Block tin	1,036	
	Wrought pewter	499½	
	Lead	184	fodder, each 19 cwt
	Ditto, per hundred weight,	2,746	hundred weight.
	Ditto, in shot,	847	
	Alum	1,275	
	Copperas	4,033	
	Tobacco	866,163	pounds weight.
	Callicoes	76,847	pieces.
	Watches	47	gold.
	Ditto	113	silver.
	Wrought plate	972	ounces.
	Foreign silver	339,353	
	Foreign gold	36,294	
Imported—	Wine in casks, chiefly pipes or butts,	4,299	casks.
	Ditto, from Leghorn	459	chests.
	Ditto, Rhenish,	1,019	aums, each 40 gall.
	Brandy from Dunkirk alone, beside brandy from Holland,	24,687	gallons.
	Rum from the British American colonies	6,327	
	Sugar from ditto	1,421	hogsheads.
	Rice from Carolina only	3,025	
	Spanish Wool	1,144	bags.
	Indigo, chiefly from Spain and our own colonies,	57,784	pound weight.
	Hemp from the East Country	1,160	hundred weight.
	Thrown silk from Italy	31,218	pounds weight.
	Raw Silk	3,441	
	Coffee from Turkey only	1,781	hundred weight.
	Oil from Gallipoli only	390	tons.
	Holland cloth, or fine linen from Holland,	66,286	ells.
	Ditto from Hamburg and Bremen	1,232,209	
	Irish linen	179,114	yards.
	Linen yarn from Hamburg	73,450	pounds weight.
	Coffee from Mocha	5,000	bales.

The whale fishery on the coast of New England was prosperous in this same year; and the rice raised in Carolina (now a very thriving colony) continues to increase, since, by a clause in an act of Parliament in the preceding session of the third of King George the Second, cap. xxix. For granting Liberty to carry Rice, &c. they are permitted to ship the same to any

 place

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1730 place in Europe south of Cape Finisterre, without being first landed in England, or being made an enumerated commodity, whereby they are open to all the coasts of Spain and Portugal in the ocean, and of Spain and France in the Mediterranean, besides Italy and the Gulph of Venice, and all the Spanish and Portuguese Isles. Provided however, that it be all carried in British ships, navigated as by the acts of navigation; and no other commodity be so carried but rice only. That commodity not being able to bear the expence of its being what is called an enumerated one; *i. e.* its being first landed in some part of Great Britain before carried to a foreign market.

By the statute of the eighth of King George the Second, cap. xix. this beneficial privilege is extended to the rice of the colony of Georgia. The consequence of both which well-judged laws has been, that our said plantation rice has been preferred to the rice of Verona and Egypt, where-ever it is carried.

On the twenty-ninth of May 1730, the French King made certain regulations for his Council of Commerce, which had been first erected in the year 1700, which he will have now to be termed the Royal Council of Commerce, viz.

"I. That it be composed of the Duke of Orleans, the Cardinal de Fleury, &c. To meet "every fifteen days, or oftner as the King shall direct.

"II. The keeper of the seals, the secretary of state for foreign affairs, and the same for the "marine, and the comptroller-general of the finances, shall make reports in each of the prin-"cipal matters relating to their respective departments.

"III. All their arrets and orders shall be signed by the chancellor and the other great "officers.

"IV. Reports to be made to the King of any branch of commerce, either inland or foreign, "that may require his consideration or protection: together with the present state of any "manufacture, in order for perfecting the same."

The suburbs of London still further increasing on every side, two other new parishes were in this year erected, viz. one called St. George in Bloomsbury, near the market of that name; and the other in the hamlet of Limehouse, and called St. Anne, at Limehouse. Another new parish, named St. Paul's, was in this same year erected in the town of Deptford, near and almost joining to the suburbs of London, the great increase of that town, by means of the dock, dock-yard, storehouses, &c. of the navy royal, chiefly occasioning so great an accession of workmen, trades-people, &c. that the old parish church was too small to contain the inhabitants of so large a town.

The great benefit of light-houses to all naval commerce is allowed by all men; and many such are in Great Britain of long standing. In this same third year of King George the Second a statute was made, For confirming a Patent granted by her late Majesty Queen Anne to William Trench, Esquire, deceased, for erecting a Light House upon the Island or Rock called Skerries, (near Holyhead, at the isle of Anglesea, &c.) whereby the duties granted for maintaining the said light house are made perpetual, it being a very great benefit to all ships and vessels navigating the Irish or St. George's Channel, or the sea between England and Ireland.

The Czarina of Russia, in this year 1730, resolved to re-assume the monopoly of tar, as practised by the great Czar, Peter I. it having been a very considerable branch of his revenue. It was at the port of Archangel that the greatest quantity of tar was usually delivered, most of which was taken off by the Dutch and Hamburgers, to the amount as was computed of forty thousand lasts yearly, each last containing eleven barrels. This trade made Archangel still much

A. D. 1730 much frequented by foreign ſhips; although the new city of Peterſburg has much eclipſed its former traffic, as have alſo the ports of Riga, Revel, and Narva, ſince the conqueſt of Livonia by Ruſſia; from which four laſt named ports there is alſo conſiderable quantities of tar exported.

Ten Dutch Eaſt India ſhips arriving at one time this year in holland, it may be worth relating how much ſpice of all kinds they brought home, (cloves only excepted, of which they brought none) viz.

Brown pepper — —	3,145,392	Pound Weight.
White ditto — —	3,904	
Nutmegs — — —	94,918	
Mace — — —	65,604	
Cinnamon — — —	640,000	
Long pepper — —	20,000	
Cubebs or pepper duſt — —	4,623	
Cardamums from Ceylon and Java —	6,500	

The other principal parts of the cargo of thoſe ten ſhips were,

Powder Sugar —— ——	1,580,115	Pound Weight.
Salt-petre —— ————	1,450,000	
Tin from Siam — — ——	90,000	
Sapan and Caliatour wood ————	559,250	
Indigo —— —— —	6,500	
Mother of Pearl — — —	550	
Cowries —— —— —	130,000	
Coffee from Java, Ceylon, and Mocha —	306,000	
Cotton yarn, from Tutucorin and Java —	36,000	
Painted ſilk ſtuffs — — —	600	Pieces.
Callicoes, of various denominations —	98,850	

But no tea nor laquered ware.

This cargo will ſhew the principal articles of the Dutch importations from India: but there came no ſhips at this time from China.

Great uneaſineſs was expreſſed at this time on account of the court of Spain's delaying to ſend the cedula or licence for the South Sea Company's great ſhip the Royal Caroline, now ready laden with a very rich cargo for the Spaniſh Weſt Indies, *i. e.* for the fair of Porto Bello, the Spaniſh Galeons being already ſailed from Cadiz; leſt Porto Bello fair ſhould be over before our ſaid ſhip ſhould arrive there. That port and fair being appointed for the merchants of Chili and Peru, and of all the Weſtern ports and ſhores of South America, at a time fixed to come and ſupply themſelves with the merchandize of Europe. When the galeons arrive, notice is diſpatched by couries from Carthagena to Panama, Lima, Cuſco, St. Jago, and other parts, with notice alſo of the time for holding that fair, whither the merchants reſort in caravans with their treaſure; who, when ſupplied with the goods they want, return home to their ſeveral abodes, and leave Porto Bello a poor and almoſt deſolate place, till the ſeaſon of the next fair. It is thought, that by this almoſt only proſperous voyage of the South Sea Company's ſhip the Royal Caroline, that company, one way or other, might clear ſeventy thouſand pounds real profit.

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1730 Great complaints were also at this time made without doors against the supercargoes and factors of the voyage in the South Sea ship the Prince Frederic, just returned home from the Spanish West Indies, on account of malversations relating to monies taken upon bottomree, clandestine trade, &c. needless now to be further enlarged on, since the said commerce of that company will not, in all probability be revived any more.

In this same year, four of our English China ships arrived, bringing home no less than one million seven hundred and seven thousand pounds weight of tea; the duty on which, at four shillings per pound, amounted to three hundred and forty-one thousand pounds sterling: and, supposing that one-third of this tea was fairly exported by certificate, the duty of which is drawn back by debenture, then the net duty of the remainder was two hundred and twenty-seven thousand six hundred pounds. What an immense sum is this to be paid to the public for one single commodity.—Moreover, only three of the company's ships from coast and Bay, this same year, brought home the following goods, viz. no less than three hundred and seventy-one thousand pieces of the many and various kinds of Callicoes and Indian silks, all to be re-exported.—Also,

Raw silk	—	—	—	73,000	great pounds
Salt-petre	—	—	—	682,000	pound weight
Pepper	—	—	—	93,000	
Redwood	—	—	—	192,000	
Cotton yarn	—	—	—	2,200	
Shellack	—	—	—	18,800	
Sticklack	—	—	—	9,000	

Under the years 1169, 1204, 1306, and more particularly under the year 1313, we have treated of the various removes or migrations of the greatest or principal shoals of herrings in the seas of Europe; which at last, some centuries ago, fixed their delight on the coasts of the British ocean. Yet, as what has once so been may hereafter be again, when least looked for, we ought not therefore greatly to be surprized if those delicious fish should again remove their favours to some other coast. What at present has given occasion for this remark is, the account given in the summer of this year 1730 by the herring fishers, which it seems did much surprize them, viz. That shoals of herrings from the North had come Southward near two months before their usual time; particularly, in the seas between England and Ireland great shoals of them were taken in July that year, not only off the Firth of Clyde in Scotland and off Londonderry in the north of Ireland, but as far South as the bays of Dublin and Wexford. Had this humour of those fish continued or increased in succeeding years, it might possibly have diminished their numbers at the usual northern parts, where they have so long been predominant, as at the isles of Lewes and Shetland, whither the Scotch and Dutch fishers in great numbers resort for that fishery: and such an alteration in so great a branch of commerce would, without doubt, have occasioned a considerable change in the commercial state of several countries of Europe. But nothing extraordinary of that kind has since happened.

In the month of August this year, there was said to have been shipped by the English Levant or Turkey Company no fewer than ten hundred thousand pieces of broad cloth, in four ships, for the Levant, which demonstrates the very great importance of that company's commerce to the nation.

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1730 In the same year, and in the month of October, we find the following remarkable importations of goods from the English American Colonies, which were entirely new and mostly unexpected productions in those colonies; and though not very considerable in themselves, are nevertheless well worth remarking, as a great increase of most part thereof has since fortunately happened, viz.

Two tons of iron, from our island of St. Christophers, found in that part of the island which formerly was possessed by the French.

Fifty hundred weight of hemp, raised in New England and Carolina.

Seventy-two bags of wool, from and produced in the islands of Jamaica, St. Christophers, &c.

Forty tons of iron.—Thirty hundred weight of copper ore.—One hundred and fifty-six quintals of bees wax.—Three hundred weight of hemp.—Three hundred weight of raw silk: all these five articles raised and produced in the province of Virginia.

Importations this year by the Hudson's Bay Company, viz.

Coat and parchment beaver skins	11,040
Ditto of cubs	4,404
Damaged and stage parchment	3,330
Ditto cubs	990
Martins	1,648
Damaged ditto	3,130
Otter skins	380
Cat skins	890
Fox skins	260
Wolverins	540
Black bear skins	410
Wolves skins	190
Wood shocks	30

By this trade we now save much money which we formerly sent to Russia for this kind of useful peltry, now entirely purchased with our own coarse woollen and other manufactures and Produce.

We shall close this promising year 1730 with a quotation from Keysler's travels through a great part of Europe, in this same year, in favour of our modern English silk fabrications, viz. "In Italy itself the silks of English manufacture are most esteemed, and bear a greater "price than those of Italy: so that, at Naples, when a tradesman would highly recommend "his silk stockings, &c. he protests they are right English."

1731 As the condition, importance, and value of all the British and some of the foreign colonies in America were, in the year 1731, set in a much clearer and more modern light than they had ever been done before, in a judicious tract of one hundred and fourteen octavo pages, entitled, The Importance of the British Plantations in America to this Kingdom, &c. considered, London 1731. We think a short abstract of it will be proper and useful, with some few remarks.

He begins with the islands, &c.

"I. If the island of Tobago justly belongs to this kingdom (as he is informed it does) it "is surprising it hath not been settled by us; since, though not quite so large as Barbadoes, it "is superior to it for good roads, convenient rivers, and richness of soil.

 "II. St.

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1731 "II. St. Lucia seems to be quit lost to us, for, since the French expelled Captain Uring, "sent thither by the Duke of Montague, in the year 1725, they are become more numerous "there than before.

"III. St. Vincent and Dominica are likewise possessed by the French. Whose intercourse "with the Indians of both islands, who generally speak French, and who are taught by them "to despise all other nations, and that quiet possession the French keep of them, give the "people of Martinco and Guadaloupe the pleasing prospect of seeing all of them settled and "fortified by them. Either of which isles, with regard to extent and fruitfulness, is ve-"ry little inferior to Barbadoes, and in point of convenience of roads and harbours for ship-"ping far superior. They both lie between the isles of Grenada and Martinico, the former "of which is one of the oldest settlements the French have in that part, producing a vast "quantity of sugar, cotton, and cocoa.

"IV. Dominica lies next to Martinico, and between that and the isles of Guadaloupe, "Grandeterre, Marigalante, and Deseada; all fine and large islands belonging to the French, "whose increase in those islands, within a few years past, is prodigious.—So that we may "reasonably reckon, that they are not fewer in number of people than all the English Lee-"ward isles, with Barbadoes included.

"V. The English Leeward Isles," so called with respect to Barbadoes, the easternmost and windwardmost of all the West India isles, "are Antigua, Nevis, St. Christopher, and Mont-"serrat.—These four islands, together with those of Barbuda, Anguilla, Tortola, and Spa-"nish Town, all settled on by the English, may be modestly considered altogether, as at least "of equal consequence to us as Barbadoes; and are capable of vast improvements," which Barbadoes is not; but is rather declining and wearing out too fast.

"VI. The isle of Eustatia is possessed by the Dutch, and is about three leagues from St. "Christophers; and though very inconsiderable in extent and produce, yet it carries on a "great smuggling trade with our islands, by means of their ships from Africa, in underselling "our own people with their negroes. Saba isle, a little to the leeward, is also possessed by the "Dutch, but is very inconsiderable.

"VII. A little more northward lie the isles of St. Martin and Bartholomew; both inconsi-"derable, and both partly inhabited by French and partly by Dutch.

"VIII. Santa Cruz has been twice possessed by the English, who have as often been beat "out by the French; is not much less than Barbadoes, and inferior to none in point of "healthfulness, fertility, good roads and bays. Yet at present it is not settled.

"IX. Northward lies the island of St. Thomas, possessed by the Danes; remarkable only "for its harbour, and its being a free port, and for smuggling.

"X. Due west from St. Thomas lies the isle of St. John de Porto Rico, inhabited by very "few Spaniards; chiefly a lawless sort of people; and, though inferior to none in point of "fertility has nevertheless been much neglected by Spain.

"XI. Hispaniola is divided between the French and Spaniards. The former greatly thriv-"ing and multiplying; the Spaniards daily decreasing, many of their fine old houses and plan-"tations being left desolate. So that the French are reckoned to be double the number of "the Spaniards in that fine large island, including the slaves of both, and to be already pos-"sessed of the greatest part of the island. The few Spaniards remaining there look upon the "whole island as gone upon the first rupture between the two crowns. The almost amazing "improvements of the French here, since the reign of our King William, shew what great

things

A. D. 1731 things may be done, by able ministers, even under an arbitrary prince.—This island alone "is of more value than all our possessions in those parts;—has excellent harbours, bays, and "rivers;—and, if we except Cuba, far exceeds all the rest of the West India islands.

"XII. Thirty leagues west of Hispaniola lies our island of Jamaica, in length one hundred "and fifty, in breadth fifty miles. Of the importance of which we may partly judge from "the quantity of its produce annually shipped off for us, viz. in sugar alone, ten thousand "tons. In cotton, indigo, ginger, pimento, rum, lime-juice, cocoa, mahogany wood, &c. two "thousand tons more. Thus, not less than twelve thousand tons of our own shipping are "constantly employed in that service only, over and above what is employed between Jamaica "and the northern continent colonies. Great are the advantages accruing to Britain from the "trade between Jamaica and the Spaniards of Mexico, &c. The rise whereof sprung from "the treaty of 1670, called the American treaty, whereby peace was first settled between the "two nations in America, and till the commencement of Queen Anne's war, that trade was "carried on, with small interruption, to the value of three hundred thousand pounds yearly, "in various European merchandize, negroes, provisions, &c. for all which our people were "paid in good pieces of eight.

"Jamaica, however, afterwards regained much of that clandestine trade; by which, and "by their privateers, and the money spent by the ships of war stationed in those seas, they "became rich and populous, until after the South Sea Company's Assiento factors settled "there, when again much of their illicit trade was lost;"—and said, with too much truth, to be carried on by others.

"XIII. Much of that clandestine trade removed to the Dutch isle of Curaçoa, from "thence grown up to be very considerable in commerce and shipping, though of itself a "mere barren spot, with only a commodious harbour, and an happy situation with respect "to the Spanish West Indies. It is supplied with provisions from the two neighbouring "Dutch isles of Aruba and Bonaire; and, though yielding nothing of itself, is yet a market "for all things; there having been sometimes seen in its harbour sixty or seventy sail of ships "together.

"XIV. Cuba Island is to the Spaniards the most important, by its situation, of any they "have in all America. It is about seven hundred miles in length, and from one hundred "and twenty miles to a much smaller breadth in some parts. It has an excellent soil, infi- "nite numbers of cattle, and fine tobacco, great quantities of aromatic drugs and dyers stuffs. "It haalf ofine bays and havens. What renders it so peculiarly beneficial to Spain, is its "safe and well fortified harbour and port, called Havanna, being the rendezvous of all the "Spanish fleets and shipping bound to Europe from any part of the coasts of New Spain, &c. "to the westward or leeward of the Carracas. Yet the Spaniards have been far from culti- "vating this fine island so well as might have been done.

"XV. The Bahama islands, though very numerous, and producing many things useful "and necessary, and all claimed by the crown of Great Britain, yet there are but four of them "inhabited by English people, viz. Providence, the principal one; Eleutheria, Harbour- "Island, and Green Turtle Key. Yet for extent and goodness of soil, Abaco is the best, "though not yet settled. And, to say the truth, were it not for the prevention of pirates set- "tling there, none of these isles would be worth our while to keep a governor, forts, and "garrison therein;" viz. chiefly at Providence, "considering how many finer colonies we "have still to improve."—He might also have added,—for the prevention of other European

 nations

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1731 nations from ſettling on thoſe iſlands; as there are ſeveral who would gladly ſettle thereon, were it not for our ſuperior naval power.

On the CONTINENT.

What our author ſays of Carolina, by no means comes up what with we have elſewhere related from very good authority; to which therefore we refer.

" XVI. Virginia and Maryland are moſt valuable acquiſitions to Britain, as well for their " great ſtaple commodity, tobacco, as for ſome pitch, tar, furs, deer ſkins, walnut-tree planks, " iron in pigs, and medicinal drugs.

" XVII. Maryland is of the ſame nature and produce as Virginia: and both together ſend " over annually to Great Britain ſixty thouſand hogſheads of tobacco, weighing, one with " another, ſix hundred pounds weight; which, at two pence halfpenny per pound, comes to " three hundred and ſeventy-five thouſand pounds. And, he thinks, that the ſhipping em- " ployed to bring home their tobacco muſt be at leaſt twenty-four thouſand tons; which, at " ten pounds per ton, is two hundred and forty thouſand pounds, the value of the ſhipping; " the greateſt part thereof, by far, being Engliſh built, continually and conſtantly fitted and " repaired in England. The freight at one pound ten ſhillings per hogſhead," (the loweſt) " is ninety thouſand pounds; and the petty charges and commiſſion, on each hogſhead, not " leſs than one pound. or ſixty thouſand pounds. Which two laſt named ſums jointly, viz. " one hundred and fifty thouſand pounds, we undoubtedly receive from thoſe two provinces " upon tobacco only. The net proceeds of the tobacco will be two hundred and twenty-five " thouſand pounds. All which are returned in goods; only there will further remain with us " about five per cent. commiſſion and petty charges on the ſaid goods, being eleven thouſand " two hundred and fifty pounds. There will be further imported in the tobacco ſhips from " thoſe two provinces, lumber to the value of fifteen thouſand pounds. Two-thirds where- " of is clear gain, it not coſting four thouſand pounds in that country, firſt coſt in goods; " and, as it is the maſter's privilege, there is no freight paid for it. Skins and furs about " ſix thouſand pounds value; four thouſand pounds of which is actual gain to England. So " the whole gain to England amounts to about one hundred and eighty thouſand pounds an- " nually.

" Thoſe two provinces moreover produce excellent flax; alſo wool equal to our beſt Eng- " liſh wool; of both which they make manufactures: and what they do not manufacture " themſelves, they exchange with the Pennſylvanians for rum, ſugar, melaſſes, ſalt, &c. This " author had ſeen two very promiſing iron works, one in Virginia, the other in Maryland; both " of them cloſe to water carriage as well as to the woods. So that if they had not leave to im- " port their iron, duty free, they muſt manufacture it for themſelves, which will, in time, " leſſen the exportation of our iron wares.

" The trade of theſe two provinces to all other parts of Great Britain is inconſiderable; not " employing above one thouſand tons of ſhipping to the ſugar iſlands, and in all other trades " on their own proper account. Yet there is a great number of veſſels that reſort to both " provinces, of and from our other continent colonies.

" XIX. That Pennſylvania, which has not any peculiar ſtaple, like Carolina, Virginia, and " Maryland, and was begun to be planted ſo late as 1680, ſhould at preſent have more white " inhabitants in it than all Virginia, Maryland, and both the Carolinas, is extremely remark- " able.

A. D. 1731 " able. And, although the youngest colony on the continent," (Georgia was not as yet planted) " they have by far the finest capital city of all British America, and the second in " magnitude. The causes usually assigned for this vast increase of white people there, in so " short a time, are these, viz.

" First, Their kind treatment of the Indians their neighbours, thereby rendering that pro- " vince absolutely safe from their attempts. Some indeed have gone so far as to assert, that " they are the only British colony that have treated the poor native Indians with humanity; " for that no other British province admits of the evidence of an Indian against a white man; " nor are the complaints of Indians against white men duly regarded in other colonies, where- " by those poor people endure the most cruel treatment from the very worst of our own peo- " ple, without hope of redress. And all the Indian wars in our colonies were occasioned by " such means.

" Secondly, The excellency of Pennsylvania's laws, whereby property is effectually secured " to all its inhabitants.

" Thirdly, The unlimited toleration for all manner of religious persuasions, without per- " mitting any claims to ecclesiastical power to take place. All men who are Protestants, are " indifferently eligible to the magistracy and legislature, let their private opinions be what they " will, without any religious test.

" The product of Pennsylvania for exportation is, wheat, flour, biscuit, barrelled beef and " pork, bacon, hams, butter, cheese, cyder, apples, soap, myrtle wax, candles, starch, hair " powder, tanned leather, bees wax, tallow candles, strong beer, linseed oil, strong waters, " deer skins, and other peltry, hemp, which they have encouraged by an additional bounty of " three half-pence per pound weight, over and above what is allowed by act of Parliament, " some little tobacco, lumber, &c, *i. e.* sawed boards and timber for building of houses, cy- " press wood, shingles, cask staves and headings, masts and other ship timber, also drugs of " various sorts, as sassafras, *calamus aramaticus*, snake root, &c.

" Lastly," adds our author, " the Pennsylvanians build about two thousand tons of ship- " ping yearly for sale, over and above what they employ in their own trade, which may be " about six thousand tons more. They send great quantities of corn to Portugal and Spain, " frequently selling the ship as well as cargo: and the produce of both is thence sent to Eng- " land, where it is always laid out in goods and sent home to Pennsylvania.—They receive " no less than from four thousand to six thousand pistoles from the Dutch isle of Curaçoa " alone, for provisions and liquors. And they trade to Surinam in the like manner, and to " the French part of Hispaniola, as also to the other French sugar islands; from whence they " bring back melasses, and also some money. From Jamaica they sometimes return with all " money and no goods, because rum and melasses are so dear there: and all the money they " can get from all parts, as also sugar, rice, tar, pitch, &c. is brought to England, to pay " for the manufactures, &c. they carry home from us; which, (he affirms) has not for ma- " ny years past been less than one hundred and fifty thousand pounds per annum. They " trade to he provinces of New England, Virginia, Maryland, and Carolina, and to all the " islands in the West Indies, except the Spanish ones, as also to the Canaries, Madeira, and " the Azore isles; likewise to Newfoundland for fish, which they carry to Spain, Portugal, " and up the Mediterranean; and remit the money to England, which, one way or other, " may amount to sixty thousand pounds yearly; but, without their trade to the French and " Dutch colonies in the West Indies, they could not remit so much to England: neither

" could

A. D. 1731 "could they carry on their trade with the Indians if they did not take off the rum and "melasses, as well as the sugars of those colonies, in part of payment of the cargoes they "carry thither.

"XX. New York and the two Jerseys have the same commodities as Pennsylvania has for "exportation, except that they do not build so many ships. New York also has lately found "in her bowels the richest copper mine that perhaps was ever heard of; great quantities of "which have been lately brought to England. This, and the iron mines of Virginia, Mary-"land, and Pennsylvania, might be brought to supply Great Britain and Ireland with all we "want of those metals; which, too, would be paid for with our own manufactures, instead "of paying three hundred thousand pounds of our cash for those metals to Sweden, &c. "New York, it is true, sends fewer ships to England than some other colonies do, but those "they do send are richer, as dealing more in furs and skins with the Indians: and," he thinks, "they are at least of equal advantage to us with Pennsylvania, both as to the money "they send us, and the manufactures they take of us. The city of New York is a most de-"lightful place, and has near as many inhabitants as Philadelphia has, and its country one "of the pleasantest in the universe.

"XXI. The soil of New England is not unlike that of Great Britain. It has at least one "hundred and twenty thousand white inhabitants," he means here only the Massachuset's Bay, "employing about forty thousand tons of shipping in their foreign and coasting trades, "and above six hundred sail of ships, sloops, &c. about one half of which shipping trades "to Europe. Their fisheries have been reckoned annually to produce two hundred and "thirty thousand quintals of dried fish, which, being sent to Portugal, Spain, and up the "Mediterranean, yield twelve shillings per quintal, being one hundred and thirty-eight thou-"sand pounds sterling. And as their salt, rum, and melasses, as also their provisions and "utensils, are purchased for the refuse fish which is not fit for the European market, and for "the oil made from the fish; the said sum may be said to be all gained out of the sea. By "this fishery and their other commerce, they are said to employ at least six thousand seamen: "and adding to the above sum the freight and commission, all earned by our own people, and "reckoned at one-third more, the whole will be one hundred and seventy-two thousand five "hundred pounds, all remitted to Great Britain. There is, moreover, their whale fishery, "employing about one thousand three hundred tons of shipping. To Europe also, and to "the West Indies, they send great quantities of lumber of all sorts and of provisions," the same as mentioned under the head of Pennsylvania, "the produce whereof is likewise re-"mitted to England. They also trade to the Bay of Honduras for logwood. And as they "build shipping very cheap, they can afford to sell their lumber, &c. to our sugar colonies "at a lower rate than any other people can. Many of those New England ships are loaded "from the sugar islands directly for England. From New England also we have the largest "masts in the world for our royal navy. From thence also, as from our other continent co-"lonies, we receive all the gold and silver that they can spare, none of which ever returns to "them: for we give them, in exchange, all manner of wearing apparel; woollen, brass, iron "and linen manufactures, East India goods, &c. in all, to the value of four hundred thou-"sand pounds yearly.

"XXII. Newfoundland, though very thinly inhabited by us, is nevertheless of vast bene-"fit to us: we make, one year with another, about two hundred thousand quintals of fish "there, which, at twelve shillings per quintal, comes to one hundred and twenty thousand

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1731 " pounds sterling; which may be reckoned all clear gain to this kingdom; the oil of the fish " paying for salt, &c. As this gain is obtained by the mere labour of our people, and as the " fishery is greatly helpful to the breeding of able seamen, the natural strength of this king- " dom; as moreover we have from Newfoundland great quantities of peltry, *i. e.* the furs and " skins of many kinds of wild beasts; as deer, fox, otter, seal, minx, and bear, with some " beaver; we ought therefore greatly to prize Newfoundland.

" XXIII. The Hudson's Bay trade employs generally three ships from London, carrying " thither coarse duffle cloth or blanketing, powder and shot, spirits, &c. And in return " brings home vast quantities of peltry of many kinds, bed feathers, whale fins, &c. And " as that small company makes a large dividend of eight, or (formerly) ten per cent. on their " capital of about one hundred thousand pounds, beside the employment they give to our " people, in fitting out and loading those ships; it may truly be said to be an advantageous " commerce, proportioned to its bulk.

" XXIV. The Bermuda Islands were formerly esteemed extremely fertile: but they seem " now to be wearing out apace. In Queen Anne's war, they are said to have had above one " hundred brigantines and sloops, though now not above half that number. They take of " us whatever necessaries they have occasion for, and pay us in money, which they get by " trading amongst the sugar isles, &c. and also with chip hats for women, and whatever else " they can procure."

Thus we have, in brief, a politico-commercial, and, in part, a natural survey of all our colonies, excepting Nova Scotia, at that time, in effect, no colony at all; being most unaccountably neglected till of late years: and, although written upwards of fifty years ago, since which time many alterations and improvements have happened in all or most of those colonies, of which we have elsewhere taken notice; yet the principal foundation of their respective trades and productions being always the same, and many points relating thereto being treated so distinctly and methodically, as to give much light thereinto, more especially to such as are not practical merchants, we thought it well merited the room it has taken up. This author's conclusion is, " That Great Britain gains one million sterling by her American colonies; " (exclusive of what we gain by any trades for negroes, or for dry goods, with the Spaniards " in the West Indies) and that, in and by our colonies alone, we maintain and employ at " least eighteen thousand seamen and fishermen." Nevertheless, we have, in several other parts of this work, made it plainly appear, that even this author's account of the benefits we then received from the American plantations is far from comprehending all the advantages we then derived from them.

In this same year, the legislature, by an act of the fourth of King George the Second, cap. v. paid off one million of the joint stock of South Sea annuity stock, from and after Michaelmas 1731, which was accordingly divided to the several proprietors, at the rate of six and a quarter per cent.

In the same year, that company sent out their remaining twenty-two ships on the whale fishery, one of which was lost, and the other twenty-one ships brought home fourteen whales, which was far from being a saving voyage. At the company's dock there had at this time been invented a new sort of gun for shooting with gunpowder the harpoons into the bodies of whales, at a greater distance than the harpoons could be thrown by hand; and the ships were accordingly provided with some of them, which were used both in this and the next year's fishery, with some success. They were chiefly adapted to a calm season, and were scarcely practicable

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1731 practicable in blowing weather, which mostly happens in the Greenland seas. And although the foreign harpooneers could not easily be brought to use them, as being out of their usual method; yet in a ship fitted out by Mr. Elias Bird and partners, two years after, out of the three whales brought home, two of them were said to be killed by that new-invented gun.

In this year 1731, a company or partnership was set on foot in Sweden, for trading from Gottenburg to the East Indies, by authority of the King of Sweden's octroi, to one Henry Coning, a rich and understanding merchant, with such others as should join him, exclusively of all others, for fifteen years, to all or any parts from beyond the Cape of Good Hope to Japan: but they were not to trade in or at any place, within the said limits, belonging to any other European nation, or state, without their permission. And above a million of rixdollars was presently subscribed by natives and foreigners. To pay to the crown an hundred dahlers per last for every ship they employ, and two dahlers more per last for port duties. This new company may be said to have partly sprung out of the ruins of the Ostend Company; many or most of its subscribers and managers were foreigners for a long time, and chiefly British subjects; the native Swedes being at first unacquainted with that trade: but by a subsequent treaty or agreement concluded between the Swedish Court and our English East India Company, there were no British subjects (after a certain fixed term) to be employed in the service of the Swedish Company.

The company has had its octroi renewed, and continues annually to send one or two ships to China: but as there is not consumption enough in Sweden for their cargoes, both this company and that of Denmark are said not a little to damage our own and the Dutch East India trade, by running in upon our widely extended coasts, tea, china-ware, silks, &c. and also by supplying foreign parts with such East India goods as we formerly sent thither.

A law having been made in the seventh and eighth of King William the Third, prohibiting the landing of any goods in Ireland, of the growth or product of the English American plantations, unless they shall have been first landed in England, and have paid the duties there: which law being construed to extend to all manner of American merchandize, as well unenumerated as enumerated, an act of Parliament, of this fourth of King George the Second, cap. xv. For importing from the said Plantations, directly into Ireland, Goods not enumerated in any Act of Parliament, explains that first-named act of Parliament so far in favour of Ireland, "That all Goods from America, not enumerated," *i. e.* which might be carried from our plantations to foreign parts, without landing them first in England, "might, in "like Sort, be landed in Ireland, in British Ships, navigated as in the Navigation Acts." This was doing no more than barely justice to Ireland, by putting her only on a par with foreign countries, in respect to such unenumerated goods. The enumerated commodities, at this time, were, sugars, tobacco, cotton wool, indigo, ginger, dying woods, melasses, rice, furs, copper ore, pitch, tar, turpentine, masts, yards, and bowsprits; imported from, and the growth and product of the said British American plantations; all which must first be landed in Great Britain, except the rice of Carolina, carried to any place south of Cape Finisterre.

In the same year, the fourth of George the Second, cap. xxvi. an act of Parliament passed, That all Pleadings in Courts of Justice in England, and in the Court of Exchequer in Scotland, shall be in the English Language. The preamble to which declares,

"That many and great mischiefs frequently happen to the subjects of this kingdom, from "the proceedings in courts of justice being in an unknown language; those who are summon- "ed and impleaded having no knowledge or understanding of what is alleged for or against "them

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1731 " them in the pleadings of their lawyers and attorneys, who also use a character not legible to " any but persons practising the law: All pleadings therefore and writings shall henceforth be " in the English language, (excepting in the Court of Admiralty) and not in Latinn or French, " and all deeds and other writings shall be in a common legible hand, and without abbrevia-" tions." Strange, that this was not enacted long before.

By a statute of the said fourth of King George the Second, cap. xxxiii. for obviating a Doubt, &c. the second penny, to be paid for penny-post letters and parcels, on delivery thereof, when carried beyond London, Westminster, and Southwark, and their respective suburbs, and as far as within ten miles thereof, and not passing by the general post, and from thence transmitted by the penny-post, which had before been voluntarily paid by the persons receiving those letters, is now legally confirmed; because in many cases the carriers of those letters are obliged to travel on horseback to places at a considerable distance from London.

In this same year, the Danish or Norwegian colony which, in the year 1721, we have shewn was sent to replant Old Greenland, returned home from thence; that climate being found so cold, and the country so barren, that even the Norwegians themselves could not live in it. Yet it seems the clergyman who went out with this colony, having converted six hundred of the native savages to the Christian religion, generously determined to remain with those poor people, for the benefit of their souls—*Rara Avis in Terris!*

In this same year, the South Sea Company's great Assiento ship, the Royal Caroline, arrived in ten weeks from Porto Bello, her lading being immensely rich: she sailed from England ten months before, with perhaps the richest outward bound lading of any ship that ever sailed from hence. This was probably according to some, the only profitable voyage which this company ever made to the Spanish West Indies; disputes arising soon after between the two nations, concerning contraband trade, on one side, and the violences of the Spanish Guarda Costas, on the other, which at length broke out into open war.

At this time, the states general of the United Netherlands had a dispute with the court of Denmark about the renewing of the tarif, which some years ago expired, for regulating the toll to be paid by Dutch ships passing through the famous streight of the Sound, into and from the Baltic sea. It is true, there is a proverb in Holland, That the Keys of the Sound are at Amsterdam. Yet those keys (*i. e.* a strong squadron of ships of war to be sent annually to keep that passage open) are extremely costly as well as hazardous. It was however amicably adjusted on the same terms as before, and to which we and other nations submit. It seems evidently the true interest of the court of Denmark to conduct itself with great moderation towards the mercantile shipping of the several nations of Europe passing this famous Sound; as any new and extravagant demands, on that score, might reasonably be supposed capable of uniting so many powerful opponents, who would be able to call in question the very foundation on which that toll has stood, though for so many ages past.

In this same year, the King of Portugal granted his Octroi, " For one occasional voyage " of one ship only, for Surat and the coast of Coromandel, and back to Portugal, exclusive of " all others; for which end a company or partnership was established, whose capital was " limited to six hundred thousand Crusados; the subscribers were, some time after the return " of the ship, to be paid back their principal and their dividend of the profits."

Whereupon the British Consul at Lisbon gave due warning to all British subjects living in Portugal, to avoid being any way concerned in this voyage; as, by an act of Parliament of

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1731 the ninth year of King George the First, (particularly aimed at the then Oftend Eaft India-Trade) fuch Britifh fubjects as fhall fubfcribe to or any way encourage foreign companies trading to the Eaft Indies, fhould forfeit all their ftock therein, and treble the value; and any of our King's fubjects going to, or being found in the Eaft Indies, (other than thofe of our Eaft India Company) were thereby declared guilty of an high crime and mifdemeanor, &c.—as has been fhewn under the year 1723:—which warning had the defired effect.

In and during this fame year 1731, there was re-exported from the port of London alone, in only two of the enumerated commodities imported from the Britifh American Colonies, viz. of tobacco fifteen millions feven hundred and eighty-feven thoufand one hundred and fifty-five pound weight, averdupois; and fugar fifty-eight thoufand four hundred and forty-fix hundred weight, of one hundred and twelve pounds to the hundred weight; or fix millions five hundred and forty-five thoufand nine hundred and fifty-two pound weight: which equally ferves to demonftrate the vaft benefit of our plantations to their mother country, and the vaft foreign commerce of the city of London, the whole exports whereof in this one year confifting of no fewer than one hundred and five articles of different fpecies of merchandize (many of which were very confiderable ones), as in the woollen manufacture alone, viz.

Apparel	894	Suits
Blankets	2,216	Pair
Caps	3,847	Dozen
Caftors and felts	10,437	ditto
Cloths long and fhort	4,822	
Coverlids	385	
Flannel	48,436	Yards
Garments	1,577	
Haberdafhery	827	Hundred weight
Hofe	7,773	Dozen
Kerfies and dozens	2,319	
Perpets	1,995	
Plains	9,640	Goads
Rugs	713	
Stuffs and bays	38,915	Pieces

befides vaft quantities of wheat, beans, peas, and oats. Bacon, bifcuit, cheefe, flour, Eaft India goods in vaft quantities; iron, copper, and brafs ware, lead and tin, tinned plates, linen, threads, and tapes, fail cloth, &c.

And of the imports to London, there were eighty-five different fpecies of merchandize, confifting of many forts of drugs, fpices, cotton, deer fkins, ivory, indigo, gums, goat fkins, iron, many kinds of dying woods and oils, naval ftores, rice, rum, turpentine, wine, wool, &c.

In this fame year 1731, was concluded the famous treaty of Vienna, between the Emperor Charles the Sixth, the King of Great Britain, and the States General of the United Netherlands, for a mutual guarantee of each others dominions, and in a moft efpecial manner.

" I. For guaranteeing with all their forces the order of fucceffion which the Emperor had " eftablifhed by a folemn act, in the year 1713, and again confirmed in 1724, in favour of " Primogeniture for all his heirs of both fexes, fo as that the eldeft of either fex fhall fucceed

" to

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1731 " to all the hereditary dominions of the House of Austria indivisibly for ever," commonly called the Pragmatic Sanction.

" II. For the Spanish Infante Don Carlos," (now King of Spain) " eventually to succeed to the " Dutchies of Tuscany, Parma, and Placentia." France afterwards agreed to this Pragmatic Sanction.

" III. The Emperor, by the fifth Article of this treaty, engages to cause all commerce and " navigation to the East Indies to cease immediately and for ever in the Austrian Netherlands, " and in all the other countries which were formerly under the dominion of Spain, in the " time of King Charles the Second,"—(this clause also respects his territories in Italy and Sicily) " in such manner that neither the Ostend Company nor any other shall at any time " contravene this treaty.—Excepting that the said Ostend Company may send for once only, " two ships to the East Indies, which shall return to Ostend, and there sell their cargoes.

" IV. But, by a separate article, the guarantees before specified of each others dominions, " in the first article of this treaty, are not to be extended to any disturbance which the Turks " may hereafter give to the dominions of the house of Austria." This last was a very proper exception in the two maritime powers to make; since otherwise they might have involved themselves in war with the Ottoman Porte, to the entire loss of their Turkey trade to France, which has already considerably enlarged her trade to the Levant. Collections of Treaties, vol. IV. in the year 1733.

France, finding that we suffered the pass of Niagara in the Iroquois country to be fortified without remonstrance, had in this year 1731, the audacity to erect a fort at Crown Point, in the centre of the said five nations, and within the undoubted limits of New York Colony; and this fort, as well as another erected by them in the same country, named Ticonderago, they held till both were taken by us, in the year 1759. And yet this most bare-faced encroachment and nearer approach towards the ocean, our then government, to their disgrace, did not sufficiently attend to.

The merchants trading to the British sugar colonies and the planters, having petitioned the House of Commons, " complaining against the British Continent American Colonies, for " their carrying on a trade with the foreign sugar colonies of the French and Dutch, from " whence they were supplied with sugar, rum, melasses, &c. instead of those of our own " sugar colonies, as well as with foreign European goods and manufactures, contrary to the " tenor or intention of the laws in being, and of the treaty with France, in the year 1686," (of which see our abstract under that year) " And they alleged, that as this new method of " trade" (first begun to be complained of in the year 1715) " increased, and enriched the " colonies of other nations, so it was injurious to the trade of this kingdom, and greatly im- " poverished the British sugar colonies, and therefore praying relief therein." Whereupon a committee was appointed, upon whose report a bill was brought in, and passed the House of Commons, " For the better securing and encouraging the Trade of his Majesty's Sugar Colonies. It was indeed dropped in the House of Peers: yet, as being a subject of the greatest consequence to our American commerce and colonies, we shall exhibit an abstract of that bill, as it was sent up to the House of Peers, viz.

Section I. " No sugar, rum, or melasses, of the plantations of foreign nations, shall be im- " ported into Britain or Ireland, or to any of the King's dominions in America, under forfeiture " of lading, ship and furniture.

II. " Aiders, assisters, and receivers, in landing any such foreign sugars, &c. were to for- " feit treble the value thereof.

1731 III. "The *Onus probandi*, or proof that the sugar, &c. so seized, was the product of the "British plantations, shall lie on the proprietors of such goods.

IV. "Masters of ships, taking in, at sea, or in any creek, harbour, or other place, any "such foreign sugar, &c. in order to be landed in Great Britain or British America, shall "forfeit two hundred pounds.

V. VI. "The masters of ships lading sugars, &c. at the British sugar colonies, bound to "any other part of the King's dominions, shall, before he sails, deliver to the collector of the "port a true account of his lading, and take of him a certificate thereof, with the merchant's "name who shipped them, and of him to whom consigned; and, when arrived at his intended "port, shall take an oath and sign a true manifest of his lading.

VII. VIII. "And whereas great numbers of horses, and great quantities of lumber have "been exported from our Continent colonies to the foreign sugar colonies, whereby they are "enabled more easily to carry on their said sugar plantations. None such were to be trans-"ported hereafter to those foreign colonies: and when any such goods are to be shipped from "the continent colonies, the master shall give a bond for five hundred pounds that they shall "not be carried to any foreign colony, &c.

IX. X. "Governors, custom house officers, &c. conniving at any fraudulent importation "of foreign sugars, &c. to forfeit three hundred pounds.

XI. "Nothing in this act shall extend to restrain the usual importation of sugars from the "dominions of Portugal."

Let us next, as briefly as possible, hear the allegations on both sides for and against this bill.

In support of the bill, it was urged, both within doors and in several pamphlets and news-papers, "That the supplying the French and Dutch sugar colonies, with shipping, often sold "to them, as also provisions, horses, and lumber, from our continent colonies, had been "practised ever since the peace of Utrecht; and that the so doing, not only made those "necessary commodities cheaper to them than they could have them any where else, but it "also obliged the importers to take in payment great quantities of the said French and Dutch "sugars, rum, and melasses; to the infinite detriment of the British sugar colonies: and, "what is still more grievous and detrimental to the public, that intercourse affords our "Northern continental colonies an opportunity of being supplied with French European mer-"chandize, although prohibited by law.

"2. That the quantity of sugar now made in America being greater than Europe can con-"sume, it is of consequence to us not to give foreigners a preference for the vent of their own "produce, in any part of his Majesty's dominions.

"3. The French having power (by the above quoted treaty) to seize on our ships trading "to their colonies, it is manifest that it must either be for their advantage, or else from neces-"sity, that they suffer it.

"4. That for the encouragement of the said continental colonies to persist in the said trade, "they have the rum and melasses from those foreign colonies without the high duties paid for "them when imported into Britain;—that melasses was formerly of little or no value to the "French planter, because rum was detrimental to France, as interfering with the consump-"tion of their brandy, until the French found they could sell it to our continental people, in "return for timber, horses, oxen, and provisions, so needful for them; whereby also they "saved so much money in specie;—and that even the money which they receive at our own "sugar islands, in payment for their lumber, provisions, horses, &c. is now carried to the "French sugar islands for the purchase of their melasses and rum. Near one-half of the

"goods

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1731 "goods, which our continental people now carry to our own sugar islands; being paid "for in money, and not by barter, as formerly, whereby the French are enabled to increase "their settlements, and also their negro trade.

"5. That this intercourse, moreover, enhances the price of negroes to our sugar colonies, "as well as of provisions, lumber, &c.—being a great discouragement to them, and more "especially to Jamaica and St. Christopher's, where there are great quantities of land for new "settlements.

"6. That there are persons still living, who very well remember, that there were great "quantities of provisions and other requisites for planting, sent from Old England to our sugar colonies, because at that time our northern continent colonies were not able fully to "supply them: whereas now, the chief benefit which the said northern colonies yield to their "mother-country, is, their being able to supply our sugar colonies with those necessaries "much cheaper than they could have them elsewhere: and that our said continent people "should be kept to that way alone of trading to our West India isles, together with their "fisheries, and raising naval stores, flax, hemp, indigo, &c. allowing them, however, any "other commerce to foreign countries, not detrimental to their mother-country.

"7. That whereas it is alleged by the continental people, that if they were restrained from "supplying the French sugar isles, they might be supplied from their own continental colonies with lumber, from their settlements at Mobile, Pensacola, and Fort Louis, in the bay "of Apalachy, whereby" say the advocates for them, "they would be put upon greatly improving and peopling their said colonies, and those of Missisippi, from whence some ships "have already begun to bring lumber to the French sugar islands; and with the same, and "also with provisions from Canada." This the sugar island advocates absolutely denied, saying, moreover, "That those French continental colonies could not take off their rum and "melasses in return; and that Canada is a barren country, and its river only navigable in "summer months.

"8. That whereas we formerly supplied even France, as well as Holland, Germany, Italy, "&c. with sugars; it is chiefly by the above means that we are now almost wholly confined "to the home consumption of Great Britain; being in a great measure excluded from Ireland, "by clandestine importations, and from the northern continental American colonies, who, "instead of carrying their product to our own sugar colonies, as formerly, do now carry the "same to our rivals in exchange for their rum and melasses.

"9. That with respect to Barbadoes, in particular, they are at a great expence in their fortifications and their militia, without any charge to the crown; beside the four and half per "cent. in specie, which they pay to the crown on all their exports, and which amounts to "about ten thousand pounds yearly. That moreover, Barbadoes employs constantly one "thousand of our own seamen, and ten thousand tons of our shipping: and that the kingdom "gains annually from this small isle" (little larger than the Isle of Wight) "ninety-five "thousand pounds sterling. Whereas the French and Dutch pay much lower duties than "British subjects do, both at home and in their plantations.

"10. That of late the Dutch have extended their colonies at Surinam, Essekebe, and Berbecies," (places on the continent, in the province of Guiana) "making much greater "quantities of sugar, rum, and melasses, than formerly; a great part of which they sell to "our continental colonies, in return for horses, provisions, and lumber.

 "11. Last-

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731 " 11. Laſtly, it was aſſerted, that the produce of our ſugar iſlands may be eſtimated and " valued at one million five hundred thouſand pounds per annum, which is ſo much additi- " onal wealth to Great Britain; and that the actual or direct gain ariſing, one way or other, " to Great Britain, from our ſaid ſugar colonies, can be no leſs than one million two hundred " thouſand pounds per annum; ariſing,

" Firſt, From the vaſt quantities of Britiſh manufactures conſumed by them.

" Secondly, For the ſame manufactures and product ſent to the Guinea coaſt for the pur- " chaſe of negroes for theſe ſugar iſlands.—And,

" Thirdly, From the accumulated freight of the ſhipping employed in thoſe two branches, " —the gain on the ſugars re-exported,—the cuſtoms,—the commiſſion,—the victualling and " re-fitting of the ſhips, &c.

It was alſo alleged, " That four-fifth parts of all the gains of a ſugar plantation center in " Great Britain, and the other fifth part formerly centered in the northern colonies ſolely, but " now one-half of that fifth part is taken away in caſh, and carried to the French plantations " to buy their ſugar, rum, and melaſſes.

On the other hand,

It was inſiſted, in behalf of the Britiſh northern continent colonies of America, viz. New " England, Rhode Iſland, New York, Pennſylvania, and the Jerſeys,

" I. That as all the ſugar, rum, and melaſſes of our ſugar iſles are taken off at high prices by " Great Britain and our ſaid northern colonies; it would be very impolitic to obſtruct the lat- " ter from taking melaſſes, and even rum, from the French iſlands, for the ſupply of their " Indian trade, and much more of their fiſheries: as our own ſugar colonies are unable to " ſupply the immenſe quantity of melaſſes which thoſe two trades demand, more eſpecially as " from the French iſlands they receive in payment ſilver and cocoa, as well as melaſſes, (but " ſeldom ſugar or rum) which ſilver comes ultimately to Great Britain to pay for the balance " of trade: and the ſaid northern colonies diſtil the melaſſes into rum, for the above-named " purpoſes.

" II. That by this trade the northern colonies are enabled to make ſuch conſiderable re- " mittances to England, in ready money, as they could procure no where elſe but by their " traffic with the foreign colonies, as well as by indigo, cocoa, ſugar, and rum, both from " Britiſh and foreign colonies, for enabling them to pay for the great quantities of our " manufactures which they yearly take of us.

" III. That if the northern colonies were not permitted to ſupply the French iſlands with " lumber, they could have it, though ſomewhat dearer, from their own colonies in the Bay " of Apalachy," (this is already anſwered under article 7.) " and that our horſes would be " of little or no uſe, if not bought up by the French, who, beſides, could have them, as " alſo mules, from the coaſts of New Spain and New Andaluſia, and from the Dutch iſle of " Curaçoa.

" IV. That the Britiſh ſugar iſles employ no ſhips but for their own ſugars and ſome few " other commodities, and what aſſiſtance they afford to the negro trade: whereas, for every " ſhip which they uſe, the northern continental colonies employ ten at leaſt, and not only uſe " great quantities of Britiſh goods themſelves, but moreover ſupply the Indian nations behind " them with vaſt quantities thereof, whereby they ſet on work a much greater number of " hands in Great Britain than the ſugar iſlands can do.

" V. That

A. D. 1731 " V. That the late great improvements in the Dutch and French ſugar colonies are purely " owing to their induſtry and frugality on one hand; and, on the other, to the notorious lux- " ury and extravagance of the people in our ſugar iſles, who, inſtead of endeavouring to re- " gain their former trade, by lowering their prices, would now gain it by force, by the help of an " act of Parliament, to oblige all the ſubjects of Great Britain, both at home and in America, " to take off their merchandize on their own terms, for the ſupport of that luxury and ex- " travagance for which they have been ſo long famous.—That the high prices of their ſugars " have been the means of loſing their former European markets; and, if continued to be " raiſed higher, will loſe all that is ſtill left. So that in the end, the ſubjects of Great Bri- " tain alone muſt ſupport theſe people in luxury and indolence.—That Barbadoes was for- " merly wont to trade with the French and Dutch, and, by taking off their ſugars, prevented " their ſeeking out for other markets, whereby they" (*i e.* Barbadoes,) " gained the ſugar " trade almoſt entirely into their own hands: but they loſt it again in the year 1715, by laying " a duty on foreign ſugars, &c. too high to be ſupported.

" VI. That the conſumption of rum in New England is ſo great, that an author on this " ſubject aſſerts, that there had been twenty thouſand hogſheads of French melaſſes manufac- " tured into Rum, at Boſton, in one year: and as a gallon of melaſſes will make a gallon of " rum, this will amount to one million two hundred and ſixty thouſand gallons of rum in " one year: ſo vaſt is the demand for that liquor, by their fiſhery, and by the Indian trade. " If then, the trade from New England to the French iſlands was to be prohibited, how much " would our American fiſhery, and the Indian trade ſuffer for want of rum? Seeing that all the " rum from our own ſugar colonies is now entirely taken off by Great Britain and her colo- " nies. And if the northern colonies, ſhould buy up all the melaſſes and rum which our ſugar " iſlands can make, then, not only the duty on rum imported into Great Britain and Ireland " would be ſunk, which now produces a large ſum, but the French would bring their rum " to the European markets, and would probably run it in upon us. About forty years ago," *i. e.* about the year 1690, " the melaſſes were entirely waſted in Jamaica, where they produc- " ed fine ſugars long before they made any rum, which they at length learned to make from " the Barbadians, and now make it better than their original teachers. At firſt, our northern " continent colonies took off all that they made; but when they came to excel in the good- " neſs of it, ſo as that they found it would better anſwer to ſend it to England, they thereby " raiſed the price ſo high, that now very little of it is taken from Jamaica by our northern " colonies.

" In fine, if the northern American colonies and Great Britain do now actually take off all " the ſugar, rum, and melaſſes, which our ſugar iſles do or can poſſibly produce; and that " the northern continental colonies do, moreover, take off ſuch vaſt quantities of rum and " melaſſes from the French of Martinico, and do likewiſe get a great deal of them from Suri- " nam, Guadaloupe, Granada, Cape Francois, Cayenne, &c. ſhould, all but our own ſugar, " rum, and melaſſes, be abſolutely prohibited, many great inconveniencies would follow, " viz.

" Firſt, We ſhould loſe the employment of ſeveral thouſand tons of ſhipping, in the trade " between the northern colonies, and thoſe foreign ſugar colonies.

" Secondly, The ſaid northern colonies could not poſſibly be ſupplied with near the quan- " tity of rum and melaſſes which they need for carrying on the profitable trades before-men- " tioned.

" Thirdly,

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1731 "Thirdly, This would put a most dangerous monopoly into the hands of our own sugar "planters, so as that the Indian and fishery trades of our said colonies could not afford to pay "the rates which would be demanded, even supposing our islanders could make sufficient "quantities of those goods for both the American and British consumption.

"Fourthly, It would greatly increase the French shipping and navigation; not only in "bringing lumber, horses, &c. to their own sugar islands, but in carrying from thence to "Europe all their rum and melasses, where no doubt they would find markets for them, as "they already do for their sugars, so as to have beaten us out of, and to undersell us in Hol- "land, and at Hamburg, Cadiz, &c.

"Fifthly, And if the Barbadians complaint be true, viz. that their lands are so far worn "out, that it requires the labour of three negroes to produce as much sugar as could formerly "be raised by the labour of one negro, they need but remove to Jamaica, where they may "have excellent fresh land enough; and as the value of such new land is a trifle, when com- "pared to the value of the stock required for a sugar plantation, which is the principal article "for establishing such a plantation, they have that entire to carry along with them to Jamaica; "and the charge and trouble of their removing thither would be amply compensated by the "abundant product of those new lands, and which consequently would enable them to under- "sell the French and Dutch plantations, the only seeming means left for our recovering the "trade of the re-exportation of our sugars.

"Sixthly, That from the foreign sugar colonies our northern colonies bring back consi- "derable quantities of gold and silver, along with their sugar, rum, and melasses; whereby "they are enabled to pay to Great Britain for the vast quantities of its product and manufac- "tures, which they take of their mother country, and which, without this trade so much "complained of, they could not possibly pay for.

"Lastly, That the prohibiting the continental people from purchasing of the foreign colo- "nies their sugar, rum, and melasses, or even the laying high duties on them, would utterly "destroy a commerce of such great consequence to the northern colonies, as that without it "they could not carry on their fisheries,—their trade for peltry with the Indians, and their "navigation. Neither could they dispose of the product of their lands and labour, a great "part of the profits whereof centers in Great Britain, in payment of the manufactures, &c. "they have from thence. Upon the whole," say the advocates for the northern British colonies, "the secret and real view of the Sugar Islands, is, to gain the absolute monopoly of "sugar and rum, with respect to the subjects of Great Britain, to themselves; that so they "may have it in their power to exact what prices they shall please from the buyers."

Notwithstanding all which plausible allegations on both sides, in a matter of great importance to our commercial interests, there was nothing legally decided until two years later, viz. till the year 1733. And indeed where such material alterations are required to be made in a long established, or even connived course of any important branch of commerce, great and serious deliberation, and mature observation and consideration, seem absolutely requisite in a nation, like ours, whose principal support depends so much on commerce and plantations.

1732 By a statute of the fifth year of King George the Second, cap. xvii. one million of money was paid off the South Sea Company's capital stock, out of the sinking fund, from and after Midsummer 1732; but that company, having a large bond debt, occasioned by the mismanagements in the year 1720, their general court, instead of dividing that money among the proprietors, agreed to pay off one million of bonds therewith, whereby so much of their capital

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1732 ſtock was annihilated, being ſix and a quarter per cent. which was accordingly written off from each proprietor's account.

The hat manufacture being long ſince brought to perfection in England, and great quantities thereof annually exported to many foreign parts, and particularly to the Britiſh American plantations, till of late years, that great quantities of hats have been made in the continental plantations, and from thence exported to foreign markets, which were heretofore ſupplied therewith from Great Britain. For remedy whereof, it was now enacted, by cap. xxii. of the ſaid fifth year of King George the Second, To prevent the Exportation of Hats out of any of his Majeſty's Colonies or Plantations in America, &c. "That no hats or felts whatever "ſhall be exported from any of the ſaid plantations to foreign parts, nor ſhall be laden on any "horſe, cart, or other carriage, with that intent, under forfeiture thereof, and of five hun-"dred pounds for every ſuch offence, and aiders or abettors therein ſhall forfeit forty pounds; "and cuſtom-houſe officers, permitting entries of ſuch hats to be made, ſhall forfeit their "office and five hundred pounds. None ſhall make hats in the ſaid colonies, but ſuch as "ſhall have ſerved an apprenticeſhip thereto, of ſeven years. And no maſter to have at any "time above two apprentices, nor ſhall he employ any negro in that manufacture." The conveniencies, in point of cheapneſs, which the Americans have beyond their then mother country, by the plenty of beaver, hare, coney wool, and many other furs, gave them ſuch advantage, that had they not been thus reſtrained, they would ſoon have ſupplied all the world with hats. And as our people were continually increaſing in thoſe plantations, we can ſcarcely too often inculcate the opinion of knowing and intelligent men, that nothing will be able to prevent thoſe people from manufactures interfering with ours, but their being conſtantly employed in raiſing naval ſtores, and other rough materials for our own manufactures, ſuch as ſilk, flax, hemp, iron, &c.

Conſiderable quantities of coffee being by this time produced in, and begun to be imported from Jamaica into Britain, the legiſlature, for its encouragement in our Britiſh plantations, by an act of this ſame fifth year of King George the Second, cap. xxiv. For encouraging the Growth of Coffee in his Majeſty's Plantations in America, reduced the inland duty thereof, coming from thence, (but of none other) from two ſhillings to one ſhilling and ſix-pence per pound weight. It ſeems, that the French at Martinico, Hiſpaniola, and at the Iſle de Bourbon, near Madagaſcar, had ſomewhat the ſtart of us in this new production, as had alſo the Dutch at Surinam; yet none has hitherto been found to equal the coffee of Arabia, from whence all the reſt of the world originally had theirs. Yet, in length of time, our people, as well as thoſe of other nations, may bring it to good perfection, ſo that our colonies will be the better enabled to take off more of our product and manufactures, whilſt we ſhall ſave a great deal of the price we now pay for the coffee of the Eaſt.

In the ſame year, the South Sea Company again ventured to ſend out their remaining twenty-one ſhips on the whale fiſhery. It was the laſt attempt they made for recovering to Great Britain that valuable branch of trade, by which they found themſelves to be very great loſers. Thoſe ſhips brought home twenty-four and a half whales; which likewiſe proved a very loſing voyage.

And now that company having ventured full as far as (and many thought further than) in prudence they ought to have done in the ſaid whale fiſhery, in conſideration of their having, for eight years together, been conſiderable loſers in every one of thoſe years; it was judged to be

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1732 be high time to lay it aside entirely. Wherefore they sold off all their ships, stores, and utensils: and, upon finally stating the accounts of this fishery, it appeared,

	£.	s.	d.
That their total issues or disbursements, on account of their said Greenland or whale fishery, preparatory to and during the said eight years, amounted to the sum of — — — — —	262,172	9	6
And the total amount of the sales of their oil and whale-fins, in the said eight years time, as also of the sale of all their ships, stores, and utensils, was but — — — — — —	84,390	6	6
So the net balance or loss sustained by this Greenland fishery, in principal money alone, without reckoning the interest on the money advanced in each of the said eight years, was	177,782	3	0

It has been usually computed, that if a Greenland ship brought home but three whales, it would be a reasonably-gainful year: but, most unfortunately for the South Sea Company, they had not, in all the eight years fishery, brought home at the rate of one entire whale per ship, taking one year with another. It has, moreover, been a maxim among the whale fishing-adventurers, that one good fishing year in seven usually makes up the losses of six preceding bad years. But it was very unhappy that all the said eight years happened to be bad, not only to the company, but to most of the adventurers of other nations. It must, however, be allowed by all, that this company, by sustaining so great a loss as two hundred and thirty-seven thousand one hundred and forty-two pounds six shillings and two-pence, interest included, for endeavouring to promote so national a benefit, has greatly merited the favour of the public. And, moreover, that if this fishery could have been brought to be profitable to the company, it would most certainly have been a gainful one to the nation, as will plainly appear in the following and similar respects, viz.

I. By saving great sums of money sent annually beyond sea for the purchase of oil and whalebone, which we absolutely cannot be without.

II. By building and employing so great a number of stout ships as probably this company would have employed, (perhaps as far as one hundred) had success attended their fishery.

III. By the great number of good seamen, of whom this fishery is allowed to be an excellent nursery; the company actually employing annually from nine hundred and fifty to one thousand one hundred such; beside those employed at the dock in sail making, and in the rope yard, cooperage, &c.

IV. By the number of ship-builders, coopers, rope-makers, sail-makers, and labourers; and also the employment given to butchers, bakers, brewers, distillers, painters, smiths, turners, slopsellers, ship-chandlers, and all the other numerous trades depending on the fitting out of ships.

V. Lastly, By the benefit accruing to the landed interest, from the great quantity of provisions of various kinds, consumed by the men in those ships, as well as to the public revenue by the excise and customs paid for liquors and many other things used in this trade.

Now, if from the laying aside of this one single and small branch of trade, so many persons were dismissed to the wide world, to shift for themselves and families; and so many trades and occupations were to suffer a considerable diminution of the former annual emoluments; as by the

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1732 the print of Hercules's foot, they framed a judgment of his whole bulk and stature, we are, in some measure enabled, on the one hand, to frame an idea of the immense benefit and profit arising to this nation from its present general and total foreign commerce: as, on the other hand, we may form a clear judgment of the inexpressible misery, depopulation, and desolation, which a general declension of commerce would bring upon this now happy nation.

It may not therefore be amiss, on this occasion, to exhibit the whole quantity of the provisions of all kinds expended by the South Sea Company in their eight years whale fishery, as a further (though but small) testimony of the benefits accruing to the public by our navigation and commerce, viz. beef and pork, one thousand three hundred and eighty hundred weight, two quarters, fifteen pounds; beer, four hundred and sixty-six tons, one barrel, twenty-two gallons; stockfish, ten tons, nine hundred weight, three and a half quarters; brandy, one thousand seven hundred and fifty-eight and a half gallons; butter, four hundred and forty-eight firkins; cheese, two hundred and forty hundred weight, three quarters, two pounds; peas and oatmeal, one thousand one hundred and fifty-seven and a half bushels; bread and flour, one thousand and forty-four hundred weight, two quarters, fourteen pounds; grout or grots, one hundred and ten hogsheads. All which provisions cost the company no less a sum than forty-three thousand seven hundred and fifty-eight pounds two shillings and three-pence.

In the same year the Dutch East India Company resolved to make a dividend of twenty-five per cent. to their proprietors, for the year 1732, to be paid in May 1733: which shews the immense benefit as well as the prudent management of that company, who, it is said, never yet divided at any one time the entire profits they made by their immense commerce, but always reserved what we call a nest egg, for accidents. Whilst, on the other hand, the Dutch West India Company, who at first and for some time made vast profits by their commerce, took a quite contrary course, by making large and extravagant dividends, which raised the nominal but depressed the real and intrinsic value of their stock. So that when their first difficulty came upon them from the Portuguese, in the middle of the last century, they had not means sufficient to prevent their being driven out of Brasil by that nation, to their inexpressible loss. And the same happened to that company a few years after, by their being driven out of the fine countries of New York and New Jersey, and hundreds of families who had ventured their all in that company were undone by it. A lesson for all such trading companies to use the greatest caution in their annual dividends.

In this same year Pope Clement XII. erected his city of Ancona, on the Adriatic shore, into a free port for all nations, bestowing on such persons and families, as should settle there, various considerable exemptions from taxes and burdens, as also several exemptions from duties, &c. on such foreign ships as shall resort to that port for commerce. This has since had some considerable effect, that city and port being now more frequented than at former periods.

The prosperity of the kingdom of Ireland being very much for the interest and glory of Great Britain, the wealth, strength, and populousness whereof contributing to our own; we shall here observe, that an ingenious anonymous piece was published in this year, in vindication of that country from the clamours raised about the clandestine trade of running of wool and woollen goods from Ireland to foreign parts, with the best remedy for the same. In a letter to a Member of Parliament.

I. In general he undertakes to shew, "That although the quantity of wool and woollen " yarn sent from Ireland to England be less at present than formerly, and is daily decreasing,

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1732 "yet it is not occaſioned from a greater quantity thereof being run beyond ſea, but from other "after-mentioned cauſes, which he introduces by ſhewing the total quantities of wool and "yarn imported into England in different periods, from 1687 downward; and that, in pro- "portion to the gradual decreaſe of that importation, Ireland generally has increaſed in peo- "ple; becauſe, meeting with other employment, firſt by tillage and ſince by their linen ma- "nufactures, they have bred much fewer ſheep, having turned much of their ſheep walks "into tillage and the paſture fit for black cattle and horſes."

II. He obſerves, "That in the year 1672, the people of Ireland were computed to amount "to one million one hundred thouſand, and in 1684 they were one million two hundred "thouſand: that ſoon after King William's reduction of Ireland they did not exceed one "million and forty thouſand," occaſioned doubtleſs by ſo many of their Papiſts going beyond ſea to France, Spain, &c. "but that, in the year 1725, they were riſen again to at leaſt one "million ſix hundred and ſeventy thouſand people. That the devaſtation in 1641, and the "encouragement given to Papiſts towards the end of King Charles the Second's reign, diſ- "couraged Proteſtants from ſettling there; and thoſe there already being indolent, by reaſon "of the cheapneſs of land and proviſions, the bulk of their lands (the people being few) was "employed in grazing of cattle and ſheep, which occaſioned a great increaſe of the exporta- "tion of wool to England. That the great increaſe of people there, about the year 1725, "by the increaſe of their linen and other manufactures, having brought thither much more "wealth, more tillage was wanted, and the ſheep walks were much leſſened. Thus, he "thinks it evident, that the decreaſe of the importation of wool and yarn to England does "not proceed from a greater, or indeed ſo great, a quantity thereof being at this time run "beyond ſea, but purely from the laſt named cauſes, and to the increaſe of dairies, and of "the conſumption of more ſheep and wool, to feed and cloath their people.

III. "It was therefore a very wiſe meaſure of England, in encouraging the linen and "hempen manufactures of Ireland, as the only effectual way to employ their poor, and pre- "vent the increaſe of their wool; as may be ſeen by the few ſheep there are now in the linen "counties, compared to former times; more particularly in the province of Ulſter, wherein "the linen manufacture is univerſally ſpread, they not having ſheep enough to ſupply their "markets with food, nor the people with cloathing. In moſt parts alſo of the other three "provinces of Ireland, the ſheep walks are conſtantly decreaſing, and tillage, dairy, and feed- "ing of black cattle and horſes, increaſing along with the linen manufacture, ſpreading faſt "into moſt counties. And, although it is not denied, that ſmall quantities of wool and its "manufactures are ſtill clandeſtinely exported, yet it does not go out in ſuch quantity as has "been imagined from the decreaſe of the export of wool and yarn to England. Our brethren "of England may therefore ſee," ſays this ingenious Iriſhman, "that, if prudent meaſures "be taken, Ireland in a little time will have no more wool nor woollen manufacture than is "neceſſary for its own conſumption.

IV. "Thus," continues he, "even the greateſt part of the wool of Ireland is now ne- "ceſſary to employ the clothiers of Dublin, who ſupply moſt parts of that kingdom with "woollen goods. It is alſo certain, that moſt of the woollen and bay yarn ſpun in the weſt "of Ireland, as well as great quantities from Dublin, is exported to England."

We ſhall only add, That as the quantity of all kinds of linen imported into the port of London alone, in the year 1731, was very near fourteen millions of ells, from Holland, Germany, and the Eaſt Country, the greateſt part of which is again exported to our plantations

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1732 in America, and our factories in Africa, &c. and as the poor of Scotland and Ireland generally live nearly as cheap, as the poor in thoſe foreign countries, it is to be hoped, that all manner of encouragement will be given, as indeed has in a great meaſure already been done, for their manufacturing the ſame, inſtead of foreign nations; but moſt eſpecially inſtead of the people of Ruſſia, Poland, and Pruſſia, to whom we pay a great annual balance in money for their linen, naval ſtores, &c.

The number of ſhips belonging to the port of London, according to Mr. Maitland's account for the year 1732, which, in his Survey of London, he ſays was taken from the general regiſter at the cuſtom-houſe; from fifteen tons to ſeven hundred and fifty tons, was one thouſand four hundred and ſeventeen ſhips; containing one hundred and ſeventy-eight thouſand five hundred and fifty-ſeven tons, navigated by twenty-one thouſand ſeven hundred and ninety-ſeven men. Of which ſhips there was one hundred and thirty from three hundred to five hundred tons, and eighty-three from two hundred to three hundred tons; all the reſt were under two hundred tons, excepting the great South Sea Company's ſhip of ſeven hundred and fifty tons.

Ten Dutch Eaſt India ſhips being arrived this year in Holland from Batavia, their vaſt cargoes may be worth recording in this work, viz.

Silk ſtuffs — —	10,700	pieces.
Raw ſilk, from Bengal, —	81,985	pounds weight.
Callicoes — —	86,515	pieces.
Pepper, black, white, and long, —	1,419,427	pounds weight.
Tea — — — —	653,552	
Nutmegs — — —	389,940	
Mace — — —	136,906	
Cinnamon — — —	128,000	
Sugar, powdered and candied, —	924,341	
Candied nutmegs — —	80,000	pots.
Cardamums — — —	6,850	pounds weight.
Java coffee — — —	1,872,375	
Cubebs — — —	5,200	
Saltpetre — —	592,028	
Benzoin — — —	11,700	
Borax — — —	1,015	
Aguil-wood — — —	200	
Caliatour-wood — —	285,069	
Cowries — —	125,419	
Cotton yarn — — —	72,843	
Gumlack — —	17,100	
Walking canes — — —	1,500	pieces.
Indigo — — —	11,222	pounds weight.
Curcuma — — —	21,487	
Mother of pearl — —	1,810	
China root — —	1,445	
Sapan-wood — — —	556,215	
Powder of pearl — — —	64	

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Malacca tin	—	—	—	23,600 pounds weight.
Siam tin	—	—	—	67,141
Diamond	—	—	—	1 rough
Rings	—	—	—	2 diamond
Boxes	—	—	—	2 gold.

In this same year, a number of gentlemen of distinction and worth set on foot one of the most disinterested, charitable, and (to the public) beneficial designs that was ever undertaken. Hitherto all our American colonies were professedly planted for the immediate benefit of the undertakers: but this was solely for a national and charitable purpose, without any other benefit to the undertakers than what results from the pleasure of doing good. Most of them were members of Parliament, who having lately had occasion to observe the misery of the prisoners confined in our goals for debt, were moved with compassion for the relief of such unfortunate objects, who, were they settled in some new colony in our plantations, might, instead of a burden and disgrace, prove a great national benefit; and, moreover, many persecuted and other Protestants from beyond sea might take the benefit of such a colony for setting up their rest there, with the free enjoyment of their civil and religious liberties. There was still a great part of the charter limits of South Carolina remaining unsettled, southward, next to Florida, which it was highly the interest of Great Britain to occupy and plant as soon as possible, lest either the Spaniards from Florida, or the French behind it, from their usurpation of the Missisippi, should seize on and occupy what they so found unoccupied; more especially as the latter people greatly lament their not having any footing on any part of the eastern shores of North America, so as to communicate more easily with their sugar islands, their voyages to and from their Missisippi colony being by no means so convenient for receiving from thence supplies of provisions, lumber, &c. which therefore they were still obliged to take from the British continental colonies. This vacancy then was judged absolutely requisite to be filled up as soon as possible.

These reasons were sufficiently cogent for gentlemen of so public-spirited a character and disposition to make the attempt. But first they were authorized by his Majesty's perpetual charter, which they obtained in this same year, on the ninth of June; "empowering twenty-"one gentlemen by name, and such others as they should from time to time elect into their "body, to be trustees for establishing the colony therein named Georgia in America, bound-"ed between the most northern stream of the river Savanna and the most southern stream of "the river Alatamaha," above one hundred miles, "along the sea coast, and extending west-"ward from the heads of the said rivers in direct lines to the South Sea, with the islands "within twenty leagues of the sea coast. The said trustees were thereby empowered to re-"ceive and manage the contributions of all persons and corporations inclined to give money "for the transporting of people to and settling them in the said country. This corporation "was made capable in law to hold and purchase lands, &c. in Great Britain, to the value of "one thousand pounds yearly, and in America to an unlimited value, for the said charitable "purpose. Their common council to consist of fifteen persons, with power to make them "up twenty-four," as they afterwards were. "This corporation might issue commissions to "others, for collecting contributions. Yielding annually to the crown four shillings for "every one hundred acres of land which they shall grant to any planter; which quit rent to "begin to be paid ten years from and after the respective dates of such grants. Georgia to "remain for ever an independent province; save only that the government of its militia shall

"remain

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1732 "remain in the governor of South-Carolina: but the government of the colony in other "respects to be in the trustees for twenty-one years, when it was to be vested in the crown. "Liberty of conscience and freedom of worship allowed to all its inhabitants, Papists alone "excepted. Lands to be granted to any person, not exceeding five hundred acres, on such "terms as the common council should seem proper. No trustee to hold lands nor office in "Georgia. The grants of lands to be registered here in the office of the auditor of the plan-"tations."

With respect to the progress made by those trustees, it may be truly said, that they took all possible pains for executing the trust: they erected two good towns, Savanna and Frederica, at the north and south extremities of the province, beside several villages and small forts, and one more famous among the Indians, called Augusta, with a small garrison for the protection of the Indian trade, two hundred and forty miles west from the sea, up the river Savanna: a common nursery-garden for white mulberry trees, for the production of silk. They procured foreign vine-dressers for improving the native vines, which in great abundance run up the tallest trees and bear small grapes; and they have so sent thither many sorts of vines from Europe; as also some Piedmonteses, skilled in the winding of silk and tending the silk worms. For several years also, they and other lords and gentlemen, by subscription, maintained a travelling professor of botany, for collecting the most precious plants and seeds in various American climates, to be transplanted to Georgia. Yet, by having several idle drones, drunkards, and determined rogues, the prosperity of this colony was at first much retarded, as it was also by frequent alarms from the Spaniards; and, it must be confessed, in part also, by an ill-judged though well meant utopian scheme, for limiting the tenure of lands, and for the exclusion of negro slaves; both which mistakes have since been rectified. By the planting of Georgia, Carolina has felt the benefit of being able to run out (as they term it) much land, which, till that new frontier barrier was established, they had no inclination to do, in consequence of which those lands have been raised to five times their former value about Port Royal and toward the river Savanna. Georgia therefore could not fail to be of great service on many accounts. The British navy might, in its bays and harbours, in case of a war, safely lie in wait for the Spanish galeons, or for the French from Missisippi, in going to Europe through the dangerous gulph of Florida, whilst the neighbouring Spanish port of St. Augustine is almost choaked up with sand. The trustees of Georgia erected a fort in the nation of the Upper Creeks, almost four hundred miles from the sea, and not above forty miles from the nearest French fort in Missisippi, whereby all that tract of country was kept possession of for us.

Georgia produces a great variety of excellent plants and drugs, orange trees in some parts of it; great plenty of horses and black cattle already raised, and the Saltsburgers of Ebenezer long since raised more corn than they consumed. There is plenty of wild fowl, and also fish on its coasts; and it gradually increased in people and improvements more and more. But of the excellence of this new province, and of the adjoining one of Carolina, for raising the richest productions upon earth, we have said so much in our introduction to this work, and of Colonel Purry's display of the peculiar excellency of the latitude of thirty-three degrees, that we shall not need here to enlarge further on that subject, after observing a mistake in the manner of granting parliamentary and other supplies for the planting of Georgia: for had the whole money granted at different times by Parliament, and also what was collected by private donations, been in one accumulated sum, and laid out at once for one grand embarkation thither,

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1732 thither, with tools, arms, ſtores, plants, ſeeds, &c. it would have more completely and ſpeedily effected what the truſtees ſo earneſtly wiſhed for, than the method they were through neceſſity obliged to follow, of ſending many annual ſmall embarkations: for ſo large an embarkation and colony ſent at once would have been near and ready to adviſe and aſſiſt one another, and would have enabled them to proceed alſo more cheatfully and with a greater certainty of ſucceſs.

The court of Spain was this year put upon a project for erecting an Eaſt India Company, to trade to the Philippine Iſles directly from Cadiz, by the Cape of Good Hope. And although it concerned all the other European nations trading to India, yet it more eſpecially concerned the Dutch to oppoſe it, as it is directly contrary to the latter part of the fifth article of the treaty of Munſter, in the year 1648, between Spain and them, and as the ſame article was lately made uſe of with ſucceſs againſt the Oſtend Company of the Spaniſh or Auſtrian Netherlands; it may be yet more ſtrongly oppoſed to the erection of this new company, viz. "Moreover, it is ſtipulated and agreed, that the Spaniards ſhall confine their navigation in "the Eaſt Indies in ſuch manner as it is at preſent poſſeſſed by them, without having it in "their power to extend the ſame any further: as alſo the inhabitants of the Netherlands ſhall "abſtain from frequenting thoſe places which belong to the Caſtilians in the Eaſt Indies." Now the Eaſt India trade, as then poſſeſſed by Spain, was practiſed ſolely from New Spain to the Philippines, and back to the port of Acapulco; but no Eaſt India trade at all from Spain by the way of the Cape of Good Hope. Wherefore the Dutch at this time moſt juſtly and zealouſly, and in the end effectually, oppoſed ſo palpable a contravention of that treaty.

Purſuant to an order of the Britiſh Houſe of Commons, directed to the Lords Commiſſioners of Trade and Plantations, in the latter end of the laſt or the beginning of this ſame year 1732, relating to the diſpute ſtill ſubſiſting between the ſugar colonies and the northern continental colonies of America; the ſaid board reported, with reſpect to any laws made, manufactures ſet up, or trade carried on there, detrimental to the trade, navigation, or manufactures of Great Britain, as follows, viz.

I. With reſpect to the laws, it is premiſed, "That many of the Britiſh colonies in America are immediately under the government of the crown; namely, Nova Scotia, New "Hampſhire, the Jerſies, New York, Virginia, the two Carolinas, Bermudas, the Bahama "Iſlands, Jamaica, Barbadoes, and the Leeward Iſlands.

"II. Others are veſted in the proprietors, as Pennſylvania, Maryland; and not long ſince "the Bahamas and the two Carolinas alſo.

"III. There are likewiſe three charter governments, viz. the Maſſachuſet's Bay, called "New England, the conſtitution whereof is of a mixed nature; where the power ſeems to "be divided between the King and the people, but in which the people have much the greateſt ſhare; for here the people do not only chuſe the aſſembly, but the aſſembly chuſes the "council alſo, and the governor depends on the aſſembly for his annual ſupport; which has "ſo frequently laid their governors under temptations of giving up the prerogative of the "crown, and the intereſt of Great Britain. The other two charter governments are Connecticut and Rhode Iſland; or rather they are corporations, where almoſt the whole power "of the crown is delegated to the people: for they chuſe their aſſembly, their council, and "their governor likewiſe annually; and hold little or no correſpondence with our office. "All theſe colonies, however, by their ſeveral conſtitutions, have power of making laws for "their better government and ſupport; provided they be not repugnant to the laws of Great

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1732 " Britain, nor detrimental to their mother country: and in the Maſſachuſet's Bay alſo, if " their laws are not repealed within three years after they have been preſented to the King, " they are not repealable by the crown after that time.

" IV. Maryland, Connecticut, and Rhode Iſland, not being under any obligation by their " reſpective conſtitutions to return authentic copies of their laws to the crown, for approba- " tion or diſallowance, or to give any account of their proceedings; we are very little inform- " ed of what is doing in any of thoſe governments.

" V. All the governors of the colonies (which are under appointment) ought, within a " reaſonable time, to tranſmit home authentic copies of the ſeveral acts by them paſſed, to " go through a proper examination.

" VI. The following complaints have, however, been lately made to this board againſt ſome plantation laws, viz.

" In the Maſſachuſet's Bay, an act was made for the encouragement of the making paper; " which law interferes with the profit made by the Britiſh merchant on foreign paper ſent " thither, being almoſt the only ſort of paper ſent thither.

" In New York there is a duty of two pounds laid on all negroes imported from Africa, " and of four pounds on all negroes imported from any other place.

" By the charter of Pennſylvania, the proprietor is obliged to offer the laws of that pro- " vince to the crown, for approbation or diſallowance, within five years after they are paſſed; " and if, in ſix months after preſented to the King, he does not repeal them, it is not in his " power to repeal them afterward.

" VII. That in New England, New York, Connecticut, Rhode Iſland, Pennſylvania, " and in the county of Somerſet in Maryland, they had fallen into the manufacture of wool- " len cloth and linen cloth, for the uſe of their own families only.

" For, firſt, The product of thoſe colonies being chiefly ſtock," *i. e.* cattle, " and grain, " the eſtates of the inhabitants depended wholly on farming, which could not be managed " without a certain quantity of ſheep, ſo that their wool would be entirely loſt were not their " ſervants employed during winter in manufacturing it for the uſe of their families.

" Secondly, That flax and hemp being likewiſe eaſily raiſed, the inhabitants manufactured " them into a coarſe ſort of cloth bags, traces, and halters, for their horſes; which they " found did more ſervice than thoſe they had from any part of Europe. That, however, the " height of wages and high price of labour in general in America rendered it impracticable for " people there to manufacture their linen cloth at leſs than twenty per cent. more than the rate " in England, or woollen cloth at leſs than fifty per cent. dearer than that which is exported " from hence for ſale. It were to be wiſhed, that ſome expedient might be fallen upon to " divert their thoughts from undertakings of this nature: ſo much the rather, becauſe thoſe " manufactures, in proceſs of time, may be carried on in a greater degree, unleſs an early ſtop " be put to their progreſs, by employing them in naval ſtores. Wherefore we take leave to " renew our repeated propoſals, that reaſonable encouragement be given to the ſame. More- " over, we find that certain trades carried on, and manufactures ſet up there, are detrimental " to the trade, navigation, and manufactures of Great Britain. For the ſtate of thoſe plan- " tations varying almoſt every year, more or leſs, in their trade and manufactures, as well as " in other particulars, we thought it neceſſary for his Majeſty's ſervice, and for the diſcharge " of our truſt, from time to time, to ſend certain general queries to the ſeveral governors in " America, that we might be the more exactly informed of the condition of the ſaid planta-

" tions,

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1732 " tions, among which there were several that related to their trade and manufactures, to which " we received the following returns, viz.

" I. New Hampshire.

" The governor, in his answer, said, That there were no settled manufactures in that " province, and that their trade principally consisted in lumber and fish.

" II. Massachuset's Bay, in New England.

" The governor informed us, That in some parts of this province, the inhabitants worked " up their wool and flax into an ordinary coarse cloth, for their own use; but did not export " any. That the greatest part of both woollen and linen cloathing worn in this province " was imported from Great Britain, and sometimes from Ireland. But, considering the ex-" cessive price of labour in New England, the merchants could afford what was imported " cheaper than what was made in that country.

" That there were also a few hatters set up in the maritime towns: and that the greater " part of the leather used in that country was manufactured amongst themselves. That there " had been for many years some iron-works in that province, which had afforded the people " iron for some of their necessary occasions: but that the iron imported from Great Britain " was esteemed much the best, and wholly used by the shipping. And that the iron works of " that province were not able to supply the twentieth part of what was necessary for the use " of the country.

" III. New York.

" That they had no manufactures in that province that deserved mentioning; their trade " consisting chiefly in furs, whalebone, oil, pitch, tar, and provisions.

" IV. New Jersey.

" No manufactures here that deserve mentioning: their trade being chiefly in provisions " exported to New York and Pennsylvania.

" V. Pennsylvania.

" Its chief trade lay in the exportation of provisions and lumber; having no manufactures " established; their cloathing and utensils for their houses being all imported from Great " Britain.

" VI. From New Hampshire further advices, viz.

" That the woollen manufacture of this province is much less than formerly; the common " lands on which the sheep used to feed, being now divided into particular properties, and " the people almost wholly cloathed with woollen from Great Britain. That the manufac-" turing of flax into linen (some coarser, some finer) daily increased by the great resort of " people from Ireland thither, who are well skilled in that business. And that the chief trade " of this province continued, as for many years past, in the exportation of naval stores, " lumber, and fish

" VII. Later accounts from Massachuset's Bay, in New England, viz.

" The assembly have voted a bounty of thirty shillings for every piece of duck or canvas to " be made in this province.—Some other manufactures are carried on there; as the making " of brown Hollands, for womens wear; which lessens the importation of calicoes, and some " other sorts of East India goods.—They also make some small quantities of cloth made of " linen and cotton, for ordinary shirting and sheeting.—By a paper mill, set up three years " ago, they make to the value of two hundred pounds yearly.—There are also several forges " for

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1732 "for making of bar iron, and some furnaces for cast iron, or hollow wares, and one slitting "mill:—and a manufacture of nails.

"The governor writes, concerning the woollen manufacture, that the country people who "used formerly to make most of their cloathing out of their own wool, do not now make a "third part of what they wear, but are mostly cloathed with British manufactures.—The "governor, (Belcher) by some of his letters of an older date, in answer to our annual queries, "writes, that there are some few copper mines in this province, but so far distant from water "carriage, and the ore so poor, that it is not worth the digging.—The Surveyor General of "his Majesty's woods writes, that they have in New England six furnaces and nineteen forges "for making of iron:—and that, in this province, many ships are built for the French and "Spaniards, in return for rum, melasses, wines, and silk, which they truck there, by conni-"vance.—Great quantities of hats are made in New England, of which the Company of "Hatters of London have likewise lately complained to us.—That great quantities of those "hats are exported to Spain, Portugal, and our West India islands.—They also make all "sorts of iron-work for shipping.—That there are several still-houses and sugar bakers esta-"blished in New England.

"VIII. Later advices from New York, viz.

"There are no manufactures here that can affect the manufactures of Great Britain.—"There is yearly imported into New York a very large quantity of the woollen manufactures "of this kingdom, for their cloathing, which," as the President of the Council of this province writes, "they would be rendered incapable to pay for, and would be reduced to the ne-"cessity of making for themselves, if they were prohibited from receiving from the foreign "sugar colonies, the money, rum, sugar, melasses, cocoa, cotton wool, &c. which they at "present take in return for provisions, horses, and lumber, the produce of that province and "of New Jersey; of which, he affirms, the British sugar colonies do not take off above one-"half. But the Company of Hatters of London have since informed us, that hats are manu-"factured in great quantities in this province.

"IX. New Jersey.

"No particular returns from this province.

"X. From Pennsylvania later advices, viz.

"The deputy-governor writes, that he does not know of any trade carried on in that pro-"vince that can be injurious to this kingdom: and that they do not export any woollen or "linen manufactures: all that they make, which are of a coarse sort, being for their own use. "We are further informed, that in this province are built many brigantines and small sloops, "which they sell to the West Indies.

"XI. Rhode Island.

"The governor informs us, in answer to our queries, that there are iron mines there; but "not a fourth part iron enough to serve their own use. But he takes no notice of any sort "of manufactures established there.

"XII. Connecticut.

"No return from the governor of this province." (By its charter, as we have already seen, almost independent, or, to the shame of the nation, holding little or no correspondence with the Board of Trade; since, by such privileges of former charters granted by the crown, before the importance of those countries was foreseen or understood, they may in time do very great mischief to their mother country, as also to the other British colonies in America, in

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1732 many respects.) "But" says this report of the Board of Trade, "we find by some accounts, "that the produce of this colony is timber, boards, all sorts of English grain, hemp, flax, "sheep, black cattle, swine, horses, goats, and tobacco.—That they export horses and lumber "to the West Indies, and receive in return sugar, salt, melasses, and rum.—We likewise "find, that their manufactures are very inconsiderable; the people there being generally em-"ployed in tillage; some few in tanning, shoe-making, and other handicrafts; others in build-"ing, joiners, taylors, and smiths work, without which they could not subsist."

No report is made concerning Carolina, the Bahama nor the Bermuda isles: and as for Newfoundland, it is scarcely to be called a plantation, and Hudson's Bay not at all.

"The Sugar Colonie,, viz. Jamaica, Leeward Islands, and Barbadoes.

"By the last returns which we have had from those islands to our circular queries, we do "not find that they have any other manufactures established, beside those of sugar, melasses, "rum, and indigo, of their own produce. These, with cotton, aloes, pimento, and some "other productions of less note are their whole dependance; which are commodities no way "interfering with the manufactures of this kingdom.—In the year 1724, Mr. Worsley, then "Governor of Barbadoes, informed us, that of cotton they made hammocks, a few stock-"ings, and nets for horses.

"From the foregoing state," continues the report, "it is observable, that there are more "trades carried on and manufactures set up in the provinces on the continent of America to "the northward of Virginia, prejudicial to the trade and manufactures of Great Britain, "particularly in New England, than in any other of the British colonies; which is not to "be wondered at: for their soil, climate, and produce, being pretty near the same with ours, "they have no staple commodities of their own growth to exchange for our manufactures; "which puts them under greater necessity, as well as under greater temptation of providing "for themselves at home: to which may be added, in the charter governments, the little de-"pendance they have upon their mother-country, and consequently the small restraints they "are under in any matters detrimental to her interests,

"And therefore, we would humbly beg leave to report and submit to the wisdom of this "Honourable House, the substance of what we formerly proposed in our report on the silk, "linen, and woollen manufactures herein before recited; namely, whether it might not be "expedient to give those colonies proper encouragements for turning their industry to such "manufactures and products as might be of service to Great Britain, and more particularly "to the production of all kinds of naval stores.

"*Whitehall*, *Feb.* 15, 1731-2. PAUL DOCKMINIQUE, &c."

From the foregoing report, the great usefulness of the institution of the Board of Trade and Plantations may be evidently seen: notwithstanding it too plainly appears also, that in answer to their annual queries sent to our plantations, the governors of the northern colonies, as in the instances above of New York and Pennsylvania, may frequently impose on that Board, in favour of their respective governments; which, it is humbly apprehended, might be easily and effectually prevented by our British legislature.

We will not presume to say how much further those annual returns from the plantations may be, or have lately been improved; but they are, without doubt, in some respects, very defective. Neither shall we presume to offer our peremptory opinion, though we have known that some have done it in private conversation, how far the Reports of the Board of Trade, concerning these annual returns from America, should be made public; since of that the King, his Ministry, and Council, must be the proper judges.

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1732 We ſhall only obſerve further, that defective as the above report to Parliament is, it is undoubtedly to be preferred before the accounts publiſhed by any private perſons, and infinitely more ſo before any ſuch which are publiſhed by anonymous authors, who, for the moſt part, write for mere private intereſt, and oftentimes to miſlead the unwary.

"England," and more particularly the city of London, "being now become a great mart "for diamonds, and other precious ſtones and jewels," according to the preamble of an act of Parliament of the ſixth of King George II. cap. vii. For the free Importation and Exportation of Diamonds, Pearls, Rubies, Emeralds, and all other Jewels and precious Stones "from "whence moſt foreign countries are ſupplied, and great numbers of rough diamonds are ſent "from abroad to be cut and poliſhed here, which is a great advantage to this nation; and "there is great reaſon to believe if the importation thereof was encouraged and made eaſy, "the ſaid trade would increaſe.—It was therefore enacted, that thoſe diamonds, might here-"after be imported, as before they might have been exported, free of all duty, in any ſhip or "veſſel whatſoever; with this only proviſo, that this exemption ſhall not make void the duty "granted to his Majeſty for the uſe of the Eaſt India Company, imported from places within "their limits."

The ſuburbs of London on every ſide ſtill increaſing, two acts of Parliament paſſed in this ſame ſixth year of King George II. for providing a maintenance for the miniſters of two new pariſhes therein, viz. for that of St. John in Southwark, cap. xi. and of St. Luke, in Old Street, in what is called the Lordſhip, part of the pariſh of St. Giles, Cripplegate, cap. xxi. Both which ſtatutes are undoubted proofs of our ſtill increaſing commerce.

1733 The warm diſpute between the Britiſh American ſugar colonies, and the Britiſh northern continental American colonies, which had laſted from the year 1731, concerning the trade of the latter with the French, Dutch, and Daniſh ſugar colonies; of whom they took off, in exchange for their proviſions, horſes, lumber, &c. conſiderable quantities of their ſugar, rum, and melaſſes, and of which, under the ſaid year 1731, we have fully treated,—was, in this year 1733, finally terminated, by a prudent temperament of an act of Parliament of this ſaid ſixth year of King George II. cap. xiii. For the better ſecuring and encouraging the trade of his Majeſty's Sugar Colonies in America. The preamble to which ſets forth, "That "whereas the welfare and proſperity of your Majeſty's ſugar colonies in America are of the "greateſt conſequence and importance to the trade, navigation, and ſtrength of this kingdom: "and whereas the planters of the ſaid ſugar colonies have of late years fallen under ſuch great "diſcouragements, that they are unable to improve or carry on the ſugar trade upon an equal "footing with the foreign ſugar colonies, without ſome advantage and relief be given to them "from Great Britain.—Be it therefore enacted,

"I. That the ſeveral after-mentioned rates and duties be granted, viz. upon all rum of the "foreign ſugar colonies which ſhall be imported into any of the Britiſh plantations in Ameri-"ca, nine pence ſterling for every gallon thereof—ſix pence for every gallon of melaſſes—and "five ſhillings on every hundred weight of ſugars and paneles—to be paid down in ready mo-"ney by the importers, before their landing of the ſame.

"II. That no ſugars, paneles, ſyrups, or melaſſes, nor any rum or ſpirits of America, ex-"cept of the growth of his Majeſty's ſugar colonies, ſhall be imported into Ireland, but ſuch "only as ſhall be laden and ſhipped in Great Britain in ſhips navigated according to the naviga-"tion laws; under forfeiture of ſhip and cargo.—With ſundry penalties on perſons aiding in "any clandeſtine importation,—on perſons obſtructing cuſtom-houſe officers;—on cuſtom-

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1733 " house officers conniving;—on ship-masters suffering such clandestine importation.—More-
" over, on all sugars and paneles imported into Great Britain, on which the duty has been
" paid, if exported within one year after there shall be repaid all the said duty;—and also two
" shillings per hundredweight on all refined sugars exported from Great Britain, over and
" above the former allowances on exportation:—Provided, that nothing in this act shall be
" construed to extend to restrain the importation of sugars of the growth or produce of the do-
" minions of Spain or Portugal, from places from whence such sugars might lawfully before
" have been imported."

By an act of Parliament of this same sixth year of King George the Second, cap. xxv. one million, out of the sinking fund, was paid off the joint-stock of South Sea annuities; whereby six pounds seven shillings and six pence per cent. was paid to each proprietor, and wrote off from each respective account from and after the twenty-ninth of September 1733: the total joint-stock of South Sea annuities being fifteen millions six hundred and fifty-one pounds seventeen shillings and five pence.

King George the Second of Great Britain having, by proclamation, in the same year, prohibited the passing or circulation of the old and much worn out gold coins of the realm, of twenty-five shillings, and twenty-three shillings, commonly called Broad Pieces, and the halves and quarters thereof; he thereby also, for the ease of his people, directed his receivers of taxes, and also the officers of his mint, to receive them at four pounds one shilling per ounce troy, during one whole year to come: and that such of them as should be so brought to the Mint should be coined into the modern current gold coins of the kingdom. And it being apprehended, that the advantage of so good an allowance at the Mint, and by the receivers of his revenues, as four pounds one shilling per ounce, might be a temptation for evil-minded persons to counterfeit the said old gold coin;—a statute of this same sixth of that King, cap. xxvi. To prevent the coining or counterfeiting any of the Gold Coins, commonly called Broad Pieces, made it high-treason so to do, or knowingly to utter such forged or counterfeit old coins: and forty pounds reward was allowed to such as should discover the counterfeiters thereof.

At this time the Royal African Company of England was in a very bad condition. For although the Parliament had, every year since 1730, granted them ten thousand pounds for the supporting of their forts and factories on the African coast, yet constantly continuing to be losers by their trade for negroes to America, as they had been for many years past, they at length resolved to confine themselves to the purchasing of slaves on that coast, and selling them again to private traders to America; to all whom the trade to Africa had been laid open by Parliament on granting the said annual ten thousand pounds; and to employ their servants in carrying on a trade far up into the inland countries of Africa, for gold, elephants teeth, bees-wax, drugs, dying woods, &c.

Yet even that more contracted trade would not answer, so as to make any dividend on so small a capital stock as about two hundred thousand pounds. Nay, so far from it, that they were not able to get clear of their debts and other incumbrances, even although they had greatly reduced the salaries and allowances to their officers and servants both at home and abroad, and had practised various other means of frugality. But it seems, that their said servants in Africa had shamefully imposed on their court of assistants, who, at this time, laid all these matters before their general court of proprietors; and as they had then nine ships of their own, they proposed, in order to increase their assortments of goods at their factories, and for the

purpose

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1733 purpoſe of carrying on a large inland trade with their vaſt countries behind their forts and factories, to create bonds under the common ſeal, to the value of twenty thouſand pounds, bearing four per cent. intereſt; to which their general court agreed. Yet, notwithſtanding this, and that their court of aſſiſtants were as yet gentlemen of character and credit, their affairs grew continually retrograde; the private traders having always the advantage of them; as, indeed, will ever be the caſe in all branches of commerce where trade is freely laid open to all.

A propoſal being this year made by the court of Spain, to allow the South Sea Company two per cent. on the returns of the flota and galeons, as an equivalent for their annual ſhip, during the remainder of the company's term; that matter was debated both in their general courts and without doors, but the conſideration thereof was poſtponed. Yet we ſhall here briefly ſtate what was then ſaid in favour of that propoſal, viz.

I. It was admitted by all ſides, that the Aſſiento contract for the ſupplying Spaniſh America with negroes, was not only a greatly loſing trade to this company, but was well known to have been ſo to all former Aſſientiſts.

II. The ſaid annual ſhip was therefore granted by Spain in compenſation for that loſs: which, however, excepting the very laſt voyage, which in the year 1731 returned from Porto Bello, had likewiſe proved a loſing trade.

The bad ſucceſs of this trade has been uſually attributed to two principal cauſes, viz.

Firſt, To the frequent repriſals or ſeizures made by Spain on the company's effects in America, which was likely ever to be the caſe, whilſt the company had factors and conſiderable effects in the Spaniſh Weſt Indies; being a circumſtance that afforded Spain an opportunity to inſult us, even on very inſignificant occaſions. And,

Secondly, To the miſmanagement of the company's factors and agents in America, who got large eſtates in a very few years, and ſome of them in little more than one year, whilſt the company continued to be ſuch great loſers.

Thirdly, There were moreover frequent occaſions taken by the court of Spain to obſtruct the going out, and alſo the return of the ſaid annual ſhip in due ſeaſon, on account of her menſuration at home, or on ſome other frivolous pretext in America; in order thereby to give their flotas and flotillas the advantage.

It was therefore argued, by ſuch as were for the company's quitting that trade entirely, and for accepting of an equivalent, after the following manner, viz.

1. That the not ſending ſuch a ſhip directly to the Spaniſh Weſt Indies will not in the leaſt diminiſh the conſumption of Britiſh commodities in that part of the world, as the ſame ſorts, and, as they alleged, greater quantities of Engliſh goods will be ſent thither, (as before this Aſſiento trade was granted, by the way of Cadiz, and from thence by their flotas and galeons to the Weſt Indies, or elſe ſmuggled to the Spaniſh Weſt Indies by the way of Jamaica and the Leeward Iſlands.

2. The returns on which the propoſed two per cent. to the company was to ariſe, by the flota and galeons, and on the Spaniſh regiſter ſhips, returning from thoſe parts whither the company has a right to ſend their annual ſhip, were computed to amount to at leaſt fifteen million of pieces of eight; and two per cent thereon would be three hundred thouſand dollars or pieces of eight, or about ſeventy thouſand pounds ſterling.

On

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1733 On the other ſide of the queſtion, it was admitted, that the company's adventure by their annual ſhip amounted to about two hundred thouſand [illegible] ſterling: upon which there might be an advance of ſeventy-five pounds per cent. [illegible]all, three hundred and fifty thouſand pounds.

	£.		£.
Coſt of their	200,000	annual adventure - - -	350,000
	25,000	ſhips' ſtores, ſeamens' wages, &c.	
	10,000	maintenance of ſervants, and preſents abroad.	
	20,000	commiſſion and privilege to ſupercargoes, &c.	
	16,000	two years intereſt on two hundred thouſand pounds diſburſed for the cargo.	
	5,000	extraordinary charges of management at home on this account.	
£.	276,000	total coſt to be deducted - -	276,000
		Profit by the annual ſhip £.	74,000

N. B. This calculation is made excluſive of inſurance, and of the riſque of bad debts; and alſo on a ſuppoſition of an uninterrupted enjoyment of the trade, without any ſeizures or detentions of the ſhips. Nothing, however, was determined concerning this trade, which remained in ſuſpence until, as will be ſeen, it was entirely given up by treaty.

Although the preceding Michaelmas groſs ſale of the Britiſh Eaſt India Company's merchandize, including ſeventy thouſand pounds brought home in gold for the general account, amounted to above one million three hundred thouſand pounds, yet that company having ſo lately advanced two hundred thouſand pounds to the public for the prolonging of their privileges, and at the ſame time ſuffered an abatement of one per cent. from the intereſt of their whole capital of three million two hundred thouſand pounds, viz. from five to four per cent. —their court of directors, on mature conſideration, did, this year, propoſe to reduce their dividend from eight to ſix per cent. Nevertheleſs, ſuch, at this time, was the then unaccountable humour of a general court, that although their directors re-acquainted them, of their remaining firm in their former opinion, that not above three per cent. could be prudently divided for the then current half year, the ballot determined it, by above two to one, for three and a half per cent. even although they were then likewiſe told, that the ſecrecy proper to be obſerved by great trading ſocieties can very ſeldom, if ever, admit of particular calculations to be laid before ſuch popular aſſemblies as general courts; and although they well knew that their directors were at leaſt as much intereſted as moſt other proprietors in keeping up the dividends on their ſtock.

It is by no means foreign to our ſubject to obſerve, that in this ſame year 1733, a new and moſt promiſing corporation was erected, for promoting Engliſh Proteſtant working ſchools in Ireland. The author of this work having at this time been in ſome degree uſeful in correſponding with Dr. Maule, then Biſhop of Dromore, for promoting the charter thereof, received of that Biſhop the following well vouched account of the number of people, both Proteſtants and Papiſts, in all Ireland, viz. " That, by the Biſhop's books and other authentic " vouchers, there were at leaſt two millions of people in all Ireland, of which there are very " near ſix hundred thouſand proteſtants, and ſomewhat above one million four hundred thou-

ſand

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1733 " ſand Papiſts, or near two one-half Papiſts to one Proteſtant."—So far goes the good Biſhop's account. About the ſame time there came out a printed liſt of the total of both religions in every county in Ireland, but, for brevity's ſake, we ſhall content ourſelves with the four great diviſions, called provinces, of Ireland, viz.

	Proteſtant Families.		Popiſh Families.
I. In Ulſter - -	62,620	- - -	38,459
Leinſter - -	25,238	- - -	92,424
Munſter - -	13,337	- - -	106,407
Connaught - -	4,299	- - -	44,133
Total, Proteſtant Families	105,494	Popiſh Families	281,423

Which, at five to each family in the country, and ten for Dublin, and ſeven for Cork city, makes two million fifteen thouſand two hundred and twenty-nine ſouls, very nearly correſponding with Biſhop Maule's account.

The printed account makes the Proteſtant families of Dublin to be -	8,823
——— Popiſh ones to be - -	4,119
	12,942
Which at ten to each family, makes the people of Dublin amount to -	129,420
II. Proteſtant families in the city of Cork - - -	2,569
Popiſh families - - - - -	5,398
Total -	7,967
Which at ſeven to each family, makes the people of Cork city amount to	55,769

So noble a part of the Britiſh Empire, as this iſland, is well worth the cheriſhing, as far as can be done without evident prejudice to Great Britain. King William the Third, on his firſt landing on it, turning to old Marſhal Schomberg, truly ſaid, " This iſland is well worth " fighting for."

The King of Denmark's zeal for the proſperity of his ſubjects commerce, and more eſpecially for that of his Eaſt India Company, prompted him this year to erect an Inſurance Company at Copenhagen, in order to ſave for the future their ſending to Amſterdam for inſurances on their ſhips and merchandize; the King himſelf firſt ſubſcribing a conſiderable ſum into this new company; which was followed by the ſubſcriptions of the courtiers, merchants, and others.

The proprietors of the South Sea Company's capital ſtock becoming uneaſy, on account of their late loſſes by their Aſſiento and Greenland trades, their general court petitioned Parliament, to be enabled to divide their preſent capital ſtock of fourteen million ſix hundred and fifty-one thouſand one hundred and three pounds eight ſhillings and one penny, into three-fourth parts new South Sea annuity ſtock, and the remaining fourth-part to be the ſole capital

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1733 or trading corporation stock. Their fear of embarking into any new or hazardous schemes of commerce, &c. being the ground hereof; so small a capital being less able to bear any such hazards. It was therefore, in this sixth year of King George II. enacted, cap. xxviii. "That "the said capital stock be divided, from and after Midsummer 1733, into three-fourths annuity stock, at four per cent. to be called, The new Joint-stock of South Sea Annuities, "amounting, (by the computation of this act) to ten million nine hundred and eighty-eight "thousand three hundred and twenty-seven pounds eleven shillings and three farthings, and "the remainder," (being three million six hundred and sixty-two thousand seven hundred and eighty-four pounds eight shillings and six pence) "to be the sole capital or trading stock of "the company, in its corporate capacity;") which last named capital is somewhat more than an exact fourth-part of the above undivided capital stock, because, in writing off three-fourth parts from each proprietor's account, the fractional part, or the odd penny, was left with the said remaining fourth part or capital stock; wherefore the exact total of the new joint-stock was really but the sum of ten million nine hundred and eighty-eight thousand three hundred and eighteen pounds nineteen shillings and seven pence) "the said new joint-stock of South "Sea annuities to be quite exempted from all concern with the company's debts, bonds, trade, "&c. and to be an entire unincumbered annuity stock, redeemable by Parliament, as by former statutes: the annuity to be payable at Christmas and Midsummer yearly.

"Whereas the Master, Wardens, and Assistants of the Corporation of the Trinity-house "of Deptford-Strond, in the county of Kent, have, by grants from the crown, the lastage "and ballastage, and the sole right of supplying all ships with ballast, that sail, pass, and re-"pass in the river of Thames, between London Bridge and the main sea, at the rates and "prices accustomed; and are also entitled to, and have a right to dig, raise, and take up the "gravel, sand, and soil of the said river Thames, for the ballasting such ships and vessels as "aforesaid: and whereas the said Master, Wardens, and Assistants, have for several years last "past constantly employed sixty ballast lighters and one hundred and twenty men, to dig and "raise ballast from the shelves and sand banks of the said river, and to carry and convey such "ballast to ships and vessels having occasion for the same; and thereby the channel of the "said river hath been considerably deepened, and several obstructions to the navigation "therein removed."—So sets forth the preamble to an act of the British Parliament, in this sixth year of King George II. cap. xxix. For the better Regulation of Lastage and Ballastage in the River Thames. Wherefore this act settles the prices to be hereafter paid to that corporation for ballast, and to their ballast-men; also the burden of ballast-lighters, &c. in many respects too tedious, as well as altogether unnecessary to be herein specified; the above preamble being sufficient to explain to the reader the nature, &c. of this part of the business of the ballast-office of the Trinity-house corporation.

From the British American colony of Carolina, we were, in this same year 1733, advertised, that the rice, exported from thence to Spain and Portugal, was become so cheap in those two countries as to have put almost an entire stop to the importation of that commodity from Venice and other parts of Italy, so far as to give ground to hope, that Carolina might soon engross all the trade of Europe for that fine grain. That beside rice, there was exported from Charlestown in South Carolina, only within three months of this same year. six thousand and seventy-three barrels of pitch, one thousand nine hundred and eighty-four barrels of tar, and four hundred and twenty-four barrels of turpentine. And in this whole year, thirty-six thousand five hundred and eighty-four barrels of rice, two thousand eight hundred and two barrels

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1733 rels of pitch, eight hundred and forty-eight ditto of turpentine, sixty tons of lignum vitæ, twenty tons of Brasiletto wood, twenty-seven tons of sassafras, eight chests of skins; beside lumber, pork, beef, peas, and Indian corn. This colony is continually increasing, by the encouragement they give to new comers, both British and foreigners.

It was at this time computed, that within the compass of one year past, no less than eight hundred thousand quarters of corn had been exported from Great Britain to France, Portugal, Spain, and Italy; for which was paid by those nations, including the freight of our own ships, at least one million sterling; being all clear profit to the kingdom. How much, therefore, is the landed interest concerned in this particular respect, as well as in every other regard, for the advancement of the foreign commerce of Great Britain!

Immediately before the South Sea Company's general court had finally determined to lay aside their Greenland whale-fishery, their directors had applied to the government, for obtaining a bounty, to be granted by Parliament, on the said fishery; and although it could not then be entirely brought about, yet, in the following year 1733, a bounty was granted by an act of Parliament, in the sixth year of King George the Second, cap. xxxiii. For the further Encouragement of the Whale Fishery, carried on by his Majesty's British Subjects, "of twenty "shillings per ton on all ships fitted out in Great Britain, of two hundred tons and upwards, "for the whale-fishery, and navigated according to law." Of which new bounty two ships sent out this year by private adventurers, enjoyed the benefit; although, nevertheless, not very much to the emolument of those adventurers.

Many reasons have been assigned for British subjects not hitherto succeeding in this fishery, and for the greater success of the Dutch therein, viz.

I. In general, the greater frugality of the Hollanders, whereby, notwithstanding this our new bounty, they are enabled to undersell us in their oil and whale-bone.

II. From the manner in which the Dutch are said to carry on this and much of their other fisheries. For the ship-builder, the cooper, the sail-maker, the rope-maker, the baker, brewer, distiller, and other tradesmen employed in fitting out their said ships, frequently or mostly go each a share in those voyages: so that, should it prove a fortunate fishing season, they are sure to be doubly gainers. And, even if it should prove a bad fishery, they probably lose but little more than they had gained by their supplying the out-set of such year in their respective callings; whereby they are the better enabled to go on in that trade than mere merchants can do without these advantages. De Witt, in his Interest of Holland, chap. xvi. says, "It is wor-"thy of observation, that the Dutch Greenland Company made formerly little profit by it, "because of the great charge of setting out their ships. whereas now, that every one equips "their ships at the cheapest rate, follow their fishery diligently, and manage all carefully, the "train oil and whale-fins are employed for so many uses in several countries, that they can "sell them with such convenience, that there are now fifteen ships for one that formerly "sailed from Holland on that fishery."

III. By the re-exportation of a great part of the produce of such fishery, they are further enabled to make up the loss of any bad year's fishery: whereas we have never, as yet, carried on a whale-fishery considerable enough to enable us to export any quantity of oil and whale-fins, nor indeed enough to supply ourselves at home. And we may add,

IV. The ancient standing reason of the great lowness of the interest of money in Holland, till very lately.

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1733 There lies now before the author, an account of the Hollanders whale-fiſhing for forty-ſix years, ending in the year 1721, viz. In that ſpace they had therein employed five thouſand eight hundred and eighty-ſix ſhips, and caught thirty-two thouſand nine hundred and ſeven whales; each of which whales, one with another, being uſually valued at five hundred pounds, makes the value of the whole amount to above ſixteen millions ſterling, gained out of the ſea, moſtly by the labour of the people; the wear and tear of the ſhipping, the caſks and the proviſions excepted; which laſt three articles are alſo a vaſt benefit to the public, by the exciſe, &c. paid thereon, as well as to numberleſs individuals employed therein.

At the very cloſe of this ſame year 1733, the South Sea Company's great annual ſhip, the Royal Caroline, arrived from Vera Cruz, after being long detained there, being the laſt annual ſhip which that company is ever like to ſee from the Spaniſh Weſt Indies; her cargo conſiſted of ſilver, in dollars or pieces of eight, cochineal, and indigo: yet becauſe of the violent detention, this was ſaid to be a loſing voyage for the company.

By the laſt quarter's bill of mortality of this year for the city of Dublin, it appears that five hundred and ninety-one died in that quarter, being, at that rate, two thouſand three hundred and ſixty-four for the whole year; which laſt number being multiplied by thirty, as it is generally computed that one out of thirty dies yearly in great and populous cities, gives the whole number of people of that city, being ſeventy thouſand nine hundred and twenty ſouls: but, if multiplied by thirty-three, according to others, it will then give ſeventy-eight thouſand and twelve for the number of inhabitants of that city. This ſubject is very curious, and, in many reſpects, of good uſe in politico-commercial ſpeculations; but when cities become large and populous, the number of their inhabitants is almoſt always exaggerated. This method, however, of computing muſt neceſſarily be the moſt certain of any, provided a medium can be obtained of a determined number of years, at certain diſtances from each other. We muſt, however, conclude, that by all other accounts, there muſt be ſome miſtake in reckoning the bill of mortality of that city, and that the account of that city and people, under the New Society in Dublin for promoting Engliſh Proteſtant Schools in Ireland, approaches nearer to the truth, under this ſame year.

1734 Purſuant to an order of the Britiſh Houſe of Peers, in the year 1734, we have the repreſentation of the Lords Commiſſioners of Trade and Plantations, exhibiting an exact and curious ſtate of the trade, people, and ſtrength of our iſland plantations in the Weſt Indies, viz.

I. " Jamaica, though having nineteen pariſhes, had but ſeven thouſand ſix hundred and forty-four white people on it; even although its militia conſiſted of three thouſand men, horſe and foot, diſperſed all over the inhabited part of that iſland. They had ſix forts; and of late have had no fewer than eight independent companies of the King's forces, each conſiſting of one hundred men.

☞ The dimunition of the white people of Jamaica was owing to the great decay of their private or illicit trade to the Spaniſh main; that trade having drawn thither many white people, who were wont to get rich in a few years, and then return to their mother country, and the Spaniſh money they got in Jamaica did at length centre in England. From Jamaica our ſaid people privately carried all ſorts of our manufactures, &c. to New Spain, which, it is well known, can only be legally carried thither by the flota and flotilla from Old Spain: they alſo carried thither great numbers of negroes.

" Our

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1734 "Our exports to Jamaica, at a medium of four years, from Christmas 1728, to Christ-"mas 1732, was to the value of one hundred and forty-seven thousand six hundred and "seventy-five pounds two shillings and three-pence farthing; and our imports were five hun-"dred and thirty-nine thousand four hundred and ninety-nine pounds eighteen shillings and "three-pence halfpenny. Annual excess of our imports from Jamaica is three hundred and "ninety-one thousand eight hundred and twenty-four pounds fifteen shillings and eleven-"pence three-farthings.

II. "Barbadoes had eighteen thousand two hundred and ninety-five white people; its militia "consisted of one troop and two regiments of horse, and of seven regiments of foot; in all, "four thousand eight hundred and twelve men. In which isle are no fewer than twenty-one "forts and twenty-six batteries, mounted with four hundred and sixty-three cannon."

All our sugar islands together are thought annually to produce eighty-five thousand hogs-"heads of sugar, each hogshead containing twelve hundred weight, or in all, one million two hundred thousand hundred-weight. Of which Great Britain was thought to consume annually seventy thousand hogsheads, or ninety-four millions and eighty thousand pounds of sugar: which for ten millions of people, if so many there be in Britain, comes to nine pounds and a half of sugar to each person; or if but eight millions of people, then about eleven pounds and a half of sugar to each person; and as there are undoubtedly about two millions and upwards of people in Ireland, we may omit them in this computation, as there may probably be near that number in all the British dominions who use little or no sugar at all.

It is computed, that three hundred sail of shipping go annually from Great Britain to the Sugar Islands, beside those which go thither from our American colonies, and that about four thousand five hundred seamen are employed in navigating them; and that there is annually exported thither to the value of two hundred and forty thousand pounds in British manufactures.

III. "In all the British Leeward Islands, viz. St. Christopher's, Antigua, Nevis, and "Montserrat, with all their dependencies, Barbuda, Anguilla, Spanish Town, Tortola, and "the rest of the Virgin Isles, there are ten thousand two hundred and sixty-two white people, "and their militia consists of three thousand two hundred and eighty-four men." But, by "an account of those Leeward Islands, in the year 1736, their strength was as follows, viz.

In Antigua,	—	1,500	men, two forts and seven batteries.
— St. Christopher's,	—	1,340	men, three forts and six batteries.
— Montserrat,	—	360	men, one fort and one battery.
— Nevis,	— —	300	men, one fort and one battery.
In all,		3,500	men.
And in Anguilla,	—	80	men.
——— Spanish Town,	—	72	men.
——— Tortola,	—	120	men.
		3,772	white men in all the Leeward Islands.

IV "The islands called the Bahamas are the next, in those seas, of importance to Great Bri-"tain; where Providence is the only island, as yet, of any consideration to us, or that is peo-"pled in any degree: and here they have five hundred white people, out of which they have

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1734 " formed six companies of militia, beside one independent company in his Majesty's pay.— " On this island they have two forts, since better rebuilt.

V. " In the Bermudas, there were a few years since five thousand white people, of which " there are a thousand white men, beside officers, for their militia. They have one fort and " six batteries."

Nothing is said of Newfoundland in the report of that board; which indeed is properly no colony, it having scarcely any soil capable of cultivation: and the forts and people there are chiefly, if not solely, for the protection and accommodation of the ships of our important cod-fishery on the adjoining shoals, called the Banks of Newfoundland, and also in its bays and harbours. Those garrisons are also requisite for preventing any other European nation from getting possession of that island, which possession would render our fishery there extremely precarious, on a rupture with any such nation; as it would also our communication with our northern continental colonies. Newfoundland, therefore, on these accounts, is of very great importance to us.

In the former part of this year, his Majesty of Great Britain's eldest daughter Anne, stiled the Princess Royal, was married to William Prince of Orange, her portion being eighty thousand pounds sterling.

His Britannic Majesty's other two daughters, since married, one to the present King of Denmark, and the other to the present Landgrave of Hesse Cassel, had each forty thousand pounds for their portions.

A Committee of Inspection into the state of the South Sea Company's commerce to the Spanish West Indies, having been at this time appointed by their general court out of the stock-holders, it appeared, by the accounts which that committee published, that the entire balance of that trade from the beginning, or of their ten years American or Assiento trade, amounted to no more than thirty-two thousand two hundred and sixty pounds eighteen shillings profit to the company. This was, by the proprietors of the stock, thought (and indeed was) a very inconsiderable profit, being but three thousand two hundred and twenty-six pounds for each year of that trade. This it was which made the stockholders very earnest to accept of the equivalent formerly proposed by the court of Spain: but those proprietors or stockholders considered only their own private advantage by that supposed equivalent. For as the King and his Ministers must have been consulted, before such equivalent could be permitted to be accepted by the company, there was a more important and extensive consideration to be duly weighed, viz. whether by the illicit and very profitable trade carried on by that company's supercargoes, factors, captains, and other servants, employed by them in the Spanish West Indies, and also under their wings, from Jamaica, &c. the nation was not a greater gainer, upon the whole, than they could be by the proposed equivalent, and the carrying back the trade to the channel of Cadiz, where, without doubt, our merchants had also a great interest in that trade. We must, however, now again leave this dispute for future consideration, in its proper place.

Many great inconveniencies to commerce, and frequent frauds, having been long seen to be practised, by stock jobbing, in the city of London; an act of Parliament passed in this seventh year of King George the Second, cap. viii. To prevent the infamous Practice of Stock-jobbing. For the prevention of bargains for stocks bought or sold, for a future time, by persons on one hand, not possessed of such stock; and, on the other, by many not being in circumstances or ability to pay for such stock; for Puts also and Refusals of stocks, &c.

(terms

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1734 (terms which we have already explained, under the year 1695) whereby very many unwary persons and their innocent families have been undone, were hereby prohibited.

It was there enacted, "That all contracts and agreements whatsoever, which shall be made "or entered into, upon which any premium shall be given or paid for liberty to put upon, "or to deliver, receive, accept, or refuse any public or joint stock, or other public securities "whatsoever, or any part or share therein; and also all wagers, and contracts in the nature of "wagers or of Puts and Refusals, relating to the present or future price of any such stocks, "shall be null and void to all intents and purposes whatsoever. And all premiums given or "received upon such bargains, shall be restored and repaid to the persons who shall have so "paid them, and may be recovered by an action, commenced within six months, with double "costs; the first receivers of such premium to be obliged to answer upon oath.

"A penalty of five hundred pounds is hereby laid on all persons making such time-bargains "or contracts, Puts and Refusals; and all and every broker or brokers, agents and scriveners, "transacting or writing any such contract, shall likewise forfeit the same sum of five hundred "pounds, moiety to the King, moiety to the suer for the same. And for preventing the "evil practice of compounding or making up differences for bargains on stocks so sold: no "money shall be voluntarily given or received on that account, or for not performing of any "such contract: but all and every such contract shall be specifically performed.—And the "stock or security thereby agreed to be assigned and transferred, shall be actually so done, "and the whole money shall be paid for the same, under the forfeiture of one hundred pounds "for every such compounding, &c. as aforesaid. Stock sold, and not paid for at the time "prefixed, may be lawfully sold again to any other persons, and the buyer shall make good "any damage sustained. Stock bought, and not transferred at the due time, by the seller, "the buyer may purchase other stock and recover his damage. And whereas it is frequently "and mischievously practised, for persons to sell stocks of which they are not possessed,—it "was hereby enacted, That, for all contracts and agreements hereafter to be made either for "the selling or buying of such stocks, whereof the persons contracting shall not be possessed "at the time of such bargain, there shall be five hundred pounds penalty; as also one hun-"dred pounds penalty on the broker or agent for procuring of such bargain, who shall here-"after keep a book or register to be called the broker's book, wherein all such bargains shall "be registered; and by his neglecting so to do, he shall incur the penalty of fifty pounds. "Nothing herein, however, shall affect contracts for any stocks made with the privity of the "Accountant-general of the Court of Chancery. Nor to prevent any person from lending "money on any public joint stock or other public securities, on the re-delivering thereof, on "re-payment of the money lent." Notwithstanding which strict law, such illegal bargains continue still to be made and carried on, to the undoing of many.

There having been a British statute made in the second year of King George the Second, cap. xxii. to make it felony to steal bonds, notes, or other securities for payment of money, "it was now, in this seventh year of that King, cap. xxii. further enacted, That persons "convicted of forging, altering, or counterfeiting the acceptance of any bill of exchange, or "the number or principal sum of any accountable receipt for any note, bill, or other security "for payment of money or delivery of goods, shall suffer death as a felon."

On the twenty-eighth of March 1734, a general court of the South Sea Company, upon the repeated representation of Sir Thomas Geraldino, the King of Spain's agent at London, for the affairs of the Assiento trade of that company, concerning the bad management of their

factors,

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1734 factors, unanimously agreed to empower their court of directors to present an humble address to his Majesty, desiring his royal consent to dispose of the trade and tonnage of the company's annual ship.

In Boyer's Political State of Great Britain, for the month of September of this year, we find the following view of all the coinage of both gold and silver in the Tower of London, since the accession of his Majesty King George the Second to the throne, viz.

In gold, forty-three thousand nine hundred and forty pounds weight, which at forty-four pounds ten shillings per pound, makes in tale one million nine hundred and fifty-five thousand three hundred and thirty pounds. And in silver only eight thousand seven hundred and forty-two pounds weight, which at three pounds two shillings per pound weight, makes in tale twenty-seven thousand one hundred pounds four shillings. "A very small sum," says our author, "in proportion to that coined in gold; and seems to be an evident proof that the "current value of the two metals is not justly proportioned in this kingdom; nor is indeed "in any other part of Europe; as appears by the great profit that is to be got by carrying silver to the East Indies, and selling it for gold."

With this author's leave, what he remarks, concerning the carrying silver to the East Indies, would happen although the proportion between gold and silver, in all parts of Europe, were ever so justly ascertained; silver in India being a mere commodity or merchandize, and highly prized there merely as such.

Great complaints came over from Nova Scotia at this time; and particularly from the British settlement at Canso, a place of great consequence to our fishing trade in those parts; that although our late King had sent thither four companies of soldiers, yet there had been no money laid out in fortifying of that place: that they were particularly apprehensive of the French encroachments in their neighbourhood, who always are especially careful of their own fortifications; and that by our shameful negligence of Nova Scotia, our fishery there was almost dwindled to nothing. Notwithstanding which, our ministers seemed quite to disregard, or rather to be quite ignorant of the vast importance of that province.

The Dutch East India Company had, in this year 1734, twenty-two ships from the East Indies, whose cargoes were so vast as well to merit so small a place in this commercial history, viz.

Spiceries	6,331,027	pounds weight.
Sugar	2,406,428	
Saltpetre	1,807,210	
Coffee	3,997,759	
Dying and other drugs	91,949	chests.
Ditto	1,549,463	pounds weight.
Tea	415,970	chests.
Ditto	369,577	pounds weight.
Raw Silk	62,015	
Silk stuffs	21,205	pieces.
Callicoes	209,748	
Indigo	14,483	pounds weight.
Tin	354,000	
Copper	462,500	
Candied ginger	50,486	

China

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China ware — — —	525,223 pieces.
Yarn — — —	92,441 pounds weight.
Candied nutmegs — — —	8,000 pſs.
Cubebs — — —	10,000 pounds weight.
Curcuma of Java — — —	16,250
Mother of pearl — — —	800
Pearls — — — —	10
Cowries — — —	255,357
Rough diamonds — — —	2 pſs.
Rings — — — —	3 pſs.
Canes — — — —	1,500 pſs.
Wool — — — —	277 pounds weight.

Such alterations may happen to this commerce, in future times, as may poſſibly make this account hereafter ſeem incredible.

The trade to the coaſt of Guinea has ſeldom or never been carried on by excluſive companies, in any part of Europe, to national advantage: private traders, under proper regulations, ſeeming moſt proper for preſerving and extending that, as well as moſt other branches of foreign commerce. Of this the States General of the United Netherlands were ſo ſenſible, that they, in this year 1734, laid their trade, to a diſtrict of ſixty leagues of the weſt coaſt of Africa, open to all their ſubjects, which had till now been confined to their Weſt India Company; and was ſo to remain for twenty years to come, though under certain regulations, mentioned in their ſaid placart.

The number of ſhips arriving, during the year 1734, at Amſterdam, was ſeventeen hundred and twenty-one, viz.

From Archangel, — — —	33 ſhips.
Peterſburg, — — — —	22
Riga, — — — —	70
Narva, — — —	187
Wyburg, — — — —	20
Koningſberg, — — —	36
Dantzic, — — — —	62
Stockholm, — — —	26
Norway, — — — —	163
Greenland, — — —	77
Davis's Streights, — — —	69
London, — — — —	51
Sunderland, — — —	62
Bourdeaux, — — — —	88
Rouen, — — — —	33
Bayonne, — — —	18
Nantes, — — —	22
Rochelle, — — —	12
Cadiz, — — —	53
Bilboa, — — — —	20
Leghorn, — — — —	45

Liſbon,

1734 Lisbon,	32 ships.
Surinam,	29
East India,	14

Here is a mistake of almost four hundred ships too few, in specifying the particulars, in Boyer's Political State for the month of February 1735, probably to be supplied by their own coasters. Imperfect as this list is, we may, however, learn from it the immense commerce of Amsterdam with the northern crowns; and yet most of it is carried on by means of the fish caught on the British coasts. Hereafter, such an account as this may be useful for comparing the annual increase or decrease of the general commerce of the Seven United Provinces, and principally that of the famous city of Amsterdam.

The number of ships that entered the port of Cadiz, in the said year 1734, were, viz.

	Ships.
English,	596
French,	228
Hollanders,	147
Swedish,	13
Danish,	14
Portuguese,	2
Genoese,	2
Lubeckers,	1
Hamburger,	1
In all,	1,004

In the same year 1734, there arrived at Cadiz the treasure and effects of the Flota, viz. eleven millions eleven thousand seven hundred and forty-nine dollars or pieces of eight, in specie, for the commerce, and one million four hundred sixty-four thousand five hundred and eighty-two for the King: in all, twelve millions four hundred and seventy-six thousand three hundred and thirty-one, or about three and a half millions sterling; beside almost five millions of dollars by the Assogues ships: and beside the vast quantities of cochineal, indigo, sugar, chocolate, tobacco, snuff, hides, cocoa, copper, drugs, and dying stuffs. The preceding observation, relating to the trade of Amsterdam in this same year, may hereafter be of equal use in the case of the annual shipping and trade of Cadiz and Spanish America.

1735 "The lands in the North Riding of the county of York being generally freehold, whereby "they could be so secretly transferred from one person to another, and also easily and secretly "incumbered, that such persons as were ill disposed had it in their power to commit frauds, "and frequently did so; by means whereof, several persons who, through many years in-"dustry, have been enabled to purchase lands, or to lend money thereon, have been undone, "by prior and secret conveyances and fraudulent incumbrances:" so says the preamble to an act For the public Registering of all Deeds, Conveyances, Wills, &c. that shall be made of or that may affect any Honours, Manors, Lands, Tenements, or Hereditaments, within the North Riding of the County of York. "It was therefore enacted," in the eighth of King George the Second, cap. vi. (at the humble request of the justices of the peace, gentlemen, and freeholders of the said North Riding) "that a memorial of all deeds and conveyances be "exhibited by Michaelmas 1736, and also of all wills, devices, judgments, statutes, and re-"cognizances."

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1735 "cognizances," other than ſuch entered into in the name of his Majeſty and his ſucceſſors, "of or whereby any honours, lands, &c. may be any way affected in law or equity, ſhall "be regiſtered, or a memorial thereof, in ſuch manner as herein-after directed," *i. e.* as was by law directed, in the year 1704, for the Weſt Riding; in 1708, for the Eaſt Riding of this county; and in the year 1709, for the county of Middleſex, "otherwiſe they ſhall be adjudg-"ed fraudulent." How much is it to be wiſhed, that every part of England and Wales were ſubject to the ſame regulation. And how eaſily might it be effected would gentlemen heartily engage in the eſtabliſhment of it.

The French had of late ſo greatly improved their Eaſt India commerce, as to have had in the preceding year fourteen ſhips out upon that voyage, whereof twelve arrived in Auguſt 1734; whereby their Eaſt India Company was enabled afterward, at their Port l'Orient, in Bretagne, to put up to ſale the following Eaſt India merchandize, viz.

Coffee, tea, drugs, &c. by the pound weight, to the amount of	5,334,712	pounds weight.
Callicoes, ſtuffs, &c. — — —	387,820	pieces.
Canes — — —	4,284	packets.
Malack — — —	500	ditto.
Handkerchiefs of Caſembazard, for ſamples, —	71	
Painted handkerchiefs, for ſamples, — —	39	
Fans — — —	5,000	
Painted paper — — —	2,124	ſheets.
Mother of pearl counters and fiſhes for card playing —	28,000	
Varniſh — — — —	1,992	cabarets.
China-ware — — — —	55	cheſts.
Ditto — — —	189	rolls.

In which catalogue it may be ſeen, that the company were but new and raw in ſome part of their Eaſt India commerce, notwithſtanding the very large quantity of goods now imported.

We ſhould here alſo remark, that in the preceding year 1734 an immenſely rich fleet arrived at Liſbon from Bahia, in Braſil, and another from Rio de Janeiro, which brought home for the King and the merchants, in treaſure,

Cruſados in gold — —	15½	millions.
Gold duſt and ingots — —	220	arobs.
Gold in bars — —	437	ditto.
Wrought gold — —	48	ditto.
Silver — —	8,871	marks.
Pieces of eight — —	42,803	pieces.
Diamonds — — —	3	millions, 36 octaves & 5 quintals.
Tobacco — — —	11,000	rolls.
Hides — — —	113,000	
Sugar — — —	1,000	cheſts.

And many other particulars.

And whereas great quantities of diamonds have of late been brought over from the newly diſcovered diamond mines in Braſil, the King of Portugal, for preventing their ſinking in value by reaſon of the large quantity imported, publiſhed an edict in the beginning of this

 year

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1735 year 1735, whereby he reserved to himself all diamonds found in those mines of above twenty carrats, on certain conditions.

By the bill of births and mortality of the imperial capital city of Vienna, for the preceding year 1734, were christened five thousand-six hundred and twenty, and buried five thousand three hundred and eighty: which last number multiplied by thirty gives one hundred and sixty-one thousand four hundred souls in that city; and, if by thirty-three, then it will give one hundred and seventy-seven thousand five hundred and forty souls therein.

In this year 1735, there was published an abstract of a new treaty of navigation and commerce between Great Britain and Russia, viz.

"I. Where navigation and commerce are permitted to any other nation, they shall be perfectly free in Europe to the estates of both the contracting parties, who may send all sorts of merchandize, the importation whereof is not prohibited; and may there likewise buy all sorts of merchandize, and export them out of the said estates.

"II. The subjects of Russia shall pay the same duties of exportation as the English, particularly on the effects exported from Russia. And the Russian merchants shall enjoy the same liberties and privileges of commerce in Great Britain as do the British merchants of the Russia Company.

"III. In case British subjects shall make contracts with the Chancery, or the College of Commerce of Russia, for the delivery of merchandize, the said merchandize shall be received in the time specified, upon a declaration they shall make of their being ready.

"IV. The subjects of Great Britain may carry to Russia all sorts of merchandize, and may transport them thence by land into Persia, on paying a duty of three per cent. and may likewise bring back from Persia, through Russia, all sorts of merchandize, on again paying the said duty, without being obliged to open their bales: but, if the officers of the customs have reason to suspect, that the just value thereof hath not been declared, they may stop the goods for their inspection, and in the mean time be paid according to the value declared.

"V. The subjects of both nations may load their ships with any kind of merchandize, paying the same custom as other nations do: and, in case of fraud in paying the said duties, their goods shall be forfeited, but without any other punishment.

"VI. If any more warlike stores shall be found on board any British ship than shall be necessary for the use of the said ship or passengers; it shall be lawful to seize the same: but neither ship nor effects shall be liable to be detained.

"VII. In case of shipwreck, all manner of assistance shall be given; without offering the least violence to the ship's company or effects.

"VIII. The subjects on both sides may build houses, and dispose of them, without being liable to furnish quarters for soldiers. And passports shall be granted to those who shall think fit to retire, within two months after they notify their intention of going away.

"IX. The British merchants in Russia shall not be obliged to show their books to any one whatsoever, except it be to prove something in dispute. And, for the greater ease and encouragement of the British commerce, it is agreed, that, for the future, the English manufacture shall pay no greater duty on importation than is specified.

"This treaty is to be in force for fifteen years, from the date hereof, the second of December 1734."

In

A. D.
1735 In this same year 1735, by a statute of the eighth of King George the Second, cap. xxix. The net Rents and Profits of the Estates forfeited by the Attainder of James late Earl of Derwentwater and of Charles Radcliffe, were made applicable for the compleating of the building of Greenwich Hospital. In which Hospital, it was now hereby enacted, in the first place, That all seamen in the merchant's service, who shall happen to be maimed (not only, as in a former act, in fighting against pirates, but also) in fighting against any enemy whatsoever of his Majesty, his heirs, and successors, shall be admitted into, and provided for, in the said hospital, in like manner as any seaman maimed, wounded, or disabled in the King's actual service. And, in the next place, the whole net rents of those forfeited estates shall be for ever applicable to the support of the said royal hospital, for the better maintenance of the seamen therein, worn out and become decrepit in the service of their country. Yet the said estates shall still remain vested in the crown, subject to certain incumbrances therein mentioned. This is, truly, a noble application of those estates, very much to the nation's honour, and to the comfort and encouragement of our poor worn-out mariners. Which excellent law was further explained and amended, by a statute of the eleventh of the said King, cap. xxx.

We have the following curious piece of intelligence from the anonymous author of an ingenious pamphlet published in Ireland, intitled, The Querist. He affirms for certain, " that " the single port of Cork did, in the year 1735, export one hundred and seven thousand one " hundred and sixty-one barrels of beef—seven thousand three hundred and seventy-nine bar- " rels of pork—thirteen thousand four hundred and sixty-one casks, and eighty-five thousand " seven hundred and twenty-seven firkins of butter. A prodigious quantity of provisions " truly: whilst half the people of Ireland are starving for want of manufactures and tillage; " pasturage employing so much fewer people than any other national employment " This is a pregnant instance of the great trade of the city of Cork, which has long been famous for that particular branch of commerce. Since this author wrote, the linen and cambric manufactures of Ireland are very much increased, not only in the province of Ulster, where the linen manufacture first began, but are fast spreading over a great part of the other three provinces.

From Paris we received the following Account of the Christenings, Marriages, and Burials, (usually stiled, The Bills of Mortality) of that great city, for the years 1733 and 1734, viz.

	Christened.	*Married.*	*Buried*
Anno 1733	17,825	4,132	17,40[illegible]
Anno 1734	19,835	4'130	15,12[illegible]
			32,528
Medium of the said two years is			16,264

Now, if we multiply the last number by thirty, it gives four hundred and eighty-seven thousand nine hundred and twenty, for the number of souls in that city and suburbs, and if by thirty-three, (the lowest number yet allowed to have died in the most healthy places being one in thirty-three) then the number of souls in Paris will be five hundred and thirty-six thousand seven hundred and twelve.

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1736 In the year 1736, upon Mr. Egede's return from his miſſion in Greenland, he obtained a Miſſion College to be eſtabliſhed at Copenhagen, (according to Dr. Buſching's new Geography) for ſending miſſionaries thither for converting the natives. And the trade from Denmark to Greenland, according to him, is at preſent carried on by a company at Copenhagen, who ſend thither three or four ſhips annually. Dr. Buſching's Geography, publiſhed in Engliſh in the year 1762, likewiſe acquaints us of three or four Chriſtian miſſions then ſettled there, and of four Daniſh colonies now exiſting there; and alſo of a Moravian colony and congregation, now grown ſo conſiderable (viz. in 1761) as to equal all the four Daniſh ones.

The Court of Rome having, as already related, made the port of Ancona, on the Adriatic ſhore of the eccleſiaſtical ſtate, a free port, the Republic of Venice, in their own defence, or by way of precaution, and after much deliberation, at length agreed to make the port of their capital city of Venice likewiſe a free-port; to the great joy of their merchants. By which new regulation, no cargo of merchandize, imported for the future, was to pay any more than one ducat at entrance, and half a ducat upon exportation. Whereby the merchants were thenceforth to be exempted from all that ſlaviſh attendance and dependance upon commiſſioners and cuſtom-houſe officers, and the charges neceſſarily attending the ſame, which ſo much embarraſſed the commerce of this State, and of the merchants of other nations trading thither.

In this ninth year of King George the Second, the firſt act of Parliament, cap. xxix. paſſed, For building a Bridge croſs the River Thames, from the New Palace Yard, or the Woolſtaple, in the City of Weſtminſter, to the oppoſite Shore, in the County of Surry. This noble ſtructure, hitherto the moſt beautiful and uniform ſtone-bridge in all Europe, its vaſt magnitude conſidered, by the Parliament's bounty in granting ſeveral lotteries, and at different times ſeveral ſums of money for it, was at length compleated; much to the honour of the nation, the convenience of inland commerce, and the accommodation of all ranks of people. The ſeveral ſtatutes made concerning it, provided likewiſe for the removing of many old and decayed houſes, and the erecting of the three noble and ſpacious new ſtreets, named, Bridge Street, Parliament Street, and George Street, beſide the adorning of both the Palace Yards, &c. greatly to the ornament of the city of Weſtminſter; which, inſtead of its former dirty and narrow ſtreets, now lifts up its head with grandeur and majeſty on every ſide.

The long diſpute between the King of Denmark and the free imperial city and republic of Hamburg, was, in this year 1736, at length adjuſted, as uſual, always to the diſadvantage of the weakeſt, on the terms following, viz.

"I. That the Hamburgers ſhall pay his Daniſh Majeſty, once for all, half a million of "Daniſh crowns."—How often has ſuch once-for-all happened?

"II. That they ſhall in a year's time aboliſh their bank current; whereupon the money of "Denmark ſhall be on the ſame footing with that of Hamburg.

"III. That the merchants and artificers dwelling in the quarter or ward of Schawmberg at "Hamburg, and who are ſubjects of his Daniſh Majeſty, ſhall not be ſubject to the juriſdic- "tion of the city of Hamburgh, and ſhall not pay the ſame poll-taxes as the other inhabitants "of that city do; neither ſhall Daniſh military officers of rank, living at Hamburg, be ſub- "ject to its juriſdiction, nor the office of the royal poſts eſtabliſhed there.

"IV. That

A. D. 1736 "IV. That the commerce of Hamburg with the Danish dominions shall be restored, and "put upon its former footing: the King of Denmark, at the same time, causing all the ships "and effects of the Hamburgers which he had seized, to be released.

"V. Bankrupts at Hamburg taking refuge at Altena, or other parts of Denmark, justice "shall be done to the sufferers.

"VI. The Hamburgers rights, concerning vessels that may chance to be wrecked on the "Danish coasts, shall receive no prejudice."

Although we cannot possibly undertake to exhibit an exact and circumstantial state of the modern condition of every city and town even of the British empire itself, and much less of those of foreign states; since such an undertaking would be equally endless and impracticable: yet we shall succinctly animadvert thereon. Mr. Drake, in his History and Antiquities of the City of York, published in the year 1736, has supplied us with some materials of that kind, viz.

"I. There are in the city of York, forty-two gentlemen's coaches, twenty-two hackney-"coaches, and the like number of hackney-chairs in full exercise.

"II. A medium of seven years births and burials in that city, viz. from 1728 to 1735, is "three hundred and ninety-eight births, and four hundred and ninety-five burials per ann." "And, as York is deemed a healthful place, we shall suppose, that only one in thirty-three of its inhabitants die annually; so that four hundred and ninety-five being multiplied by thirty-three, gives the highest number of souls in the city and suburbs of York, viz. sixteen thousand three hundred and thirty-five.

"III. York within its gates is two miles and almost three quarters in circuit, as surveyed "in the year 1664." And, in his Notes, he adds, "That the city of London is very little "bigger within its walls, being but barely three miles in circumference; yet the latter proba-"bly contains six times as many inhabitants as York does, owing to the many more void "spaces in York than in London."

It was, in this year 1736, computed, that the Portuguese in Brasil produced sixty-seven thousand six hundred chests of sugar, each of twelve hundred weight; in all, eight hundred and eleven thousand two hundred hundred weight of that commodity. The Portuguese still supply Spain, many parts of the Mediterranean coast, Holland, and Hamburg, with a considerable quantity of sugar, as they formerly did England and France, till they laid ten per cent. additional impost on their sugars, and until the two last mentioned nations had well cultivated their own sugar colonies.

The Hollanders are said to produce between thirty and forty thousand hogsheads of sugar annually at the colony of Surinam: and they are of late improving their plantations of Barbecies and Isequebe, adjoining to Surinam, on the continent of South America. The Dutch also frequently import sugars from the East Indies, and some also from their own isles of Eustatia and Curaçoa.

In this same year, by a statute of the ninth of King George the Second, cap. xxxiv. For enabling his Majesty to borrow any Sum of Money, not exceeding six hundred thousand pounds, to be charged on the Sinking Fund, &c.—One million was paid off on the new joint-stock of South Sea annuities, from and after Christmas 1736; which amounted to nine pounds two shillings per cent. written off from each proprietor's account, exclusive of fractions.

In

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1736 In the fame feffion of Parliament an act paffed, cap. xxxvi. To reftrain the Difpofition of Lands, whereby the fame became unalienable.

The preamble to this new mortmain law fets forth, that "whereas gifts or alienations of "lands, tenements, or hereditaments, in mortmain, are prohibited or reftrained by Magna "Charta, and by divers other wholefome laws, as prejudicial to and againft the common "utility; neverthelefs, this public mifchief has of late greatly increafed, by many large and "improvident alienations or difpofitions made by languifhing or dying perfons, or by other "perfons, to ufes called charitable ufes; to take place after their deaths, to the difherifon of "their lawful heirs: for remedy whereof, be it enacted,—That no manors, lands, tenements, "rents, advowfons, or other hereditaments, corporeal or incorporeal whatfoever, nor any "fum or fums of money, goods, chattels, ftocks in the public funds, fecurities for money, "or any other perfonal eftate whatfoever, to be laid out or difpofed of in the purchafe of any "lands, tenements, or hereditaments, fhall be given, granted, aliened, limited, releafed, tranf-"ferred, affigned or appointed, or any way conveyed, or fettled to or upon any perfon or "perfons, bodies politic or corporate, or otherwife, for any eftate or intereft whatfoever, or "any ways charged or incumbered by any perfon or perfons whotfoever, in truft, or for the "benefit of any charitable ufes whatfoever; unlefs fuch gift, conveyance, appointment or fet-"tlement of any fuch lands, tenements, perfonal eftate, money, &c. (other than ftocks in "the public funds)—be, and be made by deed, indented, fealed and delivered in the prefence "of two or more creditable witneffes, twelve calendar months at leaft before the death of fuch "donor or grantor, including the days of the execution and death, and be enrolled in his "Majefty's High Court of Chancery, within fix calendar months next after the execution "thereof, and unlefs fuch ftocks be transferred in the public books ufually kept for the tranf-"fer of ftocks, fix calendar months at leaft before the death of fuch donor or grantor—"and unlefs the fame be made to take effect in poffeffion for the charitable ufe intended im-"mediately from the making thereof, and be without any power of revocation, refervation, "truft, condition, limitation, claufe, or agreement, whatfoever, for the benefit of the donor "or grantor, or of any claiming under him.—Provided, that the faid limitations fhall extend "to puchafes or transfers made hereafter for valuable confiderations.—And all fuch gifts, "grants, conveyances, &c. made after Midfummer 1736, otherwife than herein directed, "fhall be abfolutely void.—Provided, that nothing in this act fhall be conftrued to extend to "make void difpofitions of lands, tenements, or hereditaments, or of perfonal eftate, to be "laid out in the purchafe of fuch lands, &c. which fhall be made in any other form than by "this act directed, to or in truft for either of the two Englifh Univerfities and their refpective "colleges or houfes of learning, or for the colleges of Eton, Winchefter, or Weftminfter, "for the better fupport and maintenance of the fcholars only upon the foundation of the laft-"named three colleges.—Provided neverthelefs, that no fuch college or houfe of learning, "which doth or fhall hold fo many advowfons of ecclefiaftical benefits as are or fhall be equal "in number to half the number of their fellows, or, where there are no fellows, to half the "number of their ftudents upon the foundation, fhall, from Midfummer 1736, be capable of "purchafing, taking, or otherwife holding, any other advowfons by any means whatever; fuch "advowfons as are annexed to the headfhips of colleges not being computed in the number "hereby limited."

Several focieties petitioned to be excepted out of this bill, particularly, The Corporation for the Sons of the Clergy—that for Queen Anne's Bounty—the Grey Coat Hofpital in Weft-

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1736 Weſtminſter—and the truſtees for the charity-ſchools of London, Weſtminſter, and Southwark. But they were rejected.

"Laſtly, This act ſhall not extend to Scotland."

Notwithſtanding the very ill ſucceſs of the late whale fiſhery of the South Sea Company, for eight years together; yet, in this year 1736, one ſhip of private adventurers brought home to London no fewer than ſeven whales; and one hundred and thirty Dutch ſhips were ſaid to have caught this ſame year ſix hundred whales. So precarious is whale fiſhing in the frozen and terrible ſeas of Spitſbergen, &c.

Advices were, in this ſame year 1736, received from Carolina, that the French of Miſſiſippi colony began already to ſhew the natural diſpoſition of that nation to encroachments; by making war, jointly with their own Indians, on a nation of Indians (called Chickaſaws) dependent on Carolina. Their plan undoubtedly being now ſeen to be, to hem in all our ſettlements on the Eaſt coaſts of North America by forts, all along up the river Miſſiſippi as far as Canada, and thereby to exclude the Engliſh from any commerce with the almoſt numberleſs nations of Indians weſt of our colonies; of which plan Dr. D'Avenant (as we have obſerved in our introduction) gave public warning ſo early as the year 1698. Yet, even now, the ſcales did not fall from our eyes. It ſeems the French had got together two thouſand five hundred white men on Mobile river, on which they built a fort with an intent to invade Carolina; but the advice of peace between the French and us, obliged them to diſſemble that deſign, and our Chickaſaws proved too hard in the end for their Indian allies.

For two years paſt, the general courts of the South Sea Company had fruitleſs debates concerning an equivalent propoſed by Geraldino, the Spaniſh court's agent with that company, in lieu of their annual ſhip, which ſeemed rather calculated to amuſe the company, and to delay the Spaniſh court's cedula, or permiſſion, for ſending out of their ſaid annual ſhip, than from any ſerious intent to give the company due ſatisfaction. On the eleventh of Auguſt, in this year 1736, that company's general court took that matter again into conſideration, after much had been printed in newſpapers by way of letters, for and againſt the ſaid equivalent, and alſo for the company's farming their introduction of negroes into particular parts of the Spaniſh Weſt Indies, viz. to Vera Cruz, Campeachy, Guatimala, &c. and the ſeveral demands made by Geraldino before a cedula could be granted: but it being obſerved in this general court, that their court of directors were better acquainted with the ſecret ſprings of thoſe points, it was finally reſolved, "That the ſeveral matters relating to the diſpatching of an annual ſhip, "—to the payment demanded by the King of Spain of the quarter part of the gains by the "annual ſhip Royal Caroline;—and concerning the ſettling the value of the dollars payable "for the negro duties,—be referred to the court of directors, to do therein as they ſhall think "may be moſt for the intereſt of the company."

In this year an account was laid before the Britiſh Houſe of Commons of the ſeveral ſorts and quantities of corn which had been exported from England, between Chriſtmas 1734 and Chriſtmas 1735, with the total of the bounty paid thereon, viz.

	Quarters		£.
Barley	51,520	Bounty	7,190
Malt	219,781	Ditto	26,434
Oat-meal	1,920	Ditto	240
Rye	1,[illegible]9	Ditto	232
Wheat	153,343	Ditto	38,335

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Total bounty paid, ſeventy-two thouſand four hundred and thirty-three pounds.

A fleet of twenty-ſeven ſail arrived at Liſbon from Pernambuco, in Braſil, in this ſame year 1736, the cargo whereof was,

Cruſados for the merchants	1,300,000	In money
——— for the King	200,000	
Diamonds	4	Octaves
Cheſts of ſugar	6,294	
Small cheſts of ditto	700	
Rolls of tobacco	8,6000	
Half hides	84,000	
Whole hides in the hair	13,000	
Braſil wood	11,600	Hundred weight
Violetta wood	450	ditto

The French at this time were juſtly animadverted on by many, for their puſhing with ſo much eagerneſs, into an univerſal commerce, as the ſurer though ſlower way of coming at their old darling ſcheme of univerſal dominion, viz.

Firſt, In Africa, they had monopolized the gum trade at and near the river Senegal; they had alſo encroached on the Engliſh ſettlement at the river Gambia, and had largely increaſed their ſlave trade on that coaſt, for the encouragement of their Weſt India ſugar iſlands: where,

Secondly, They had, at this time, gained ſo much ground on ours as to be the great exporters of ſugar, and alſo of indigo, cotton, and ginger, to many parts of Europe. They had alſo gained a conſiderable ſettlement on the coaſt of Guiana, near Surinam, in South America, encroaching both on the Dutch and Spaniards there. On the north continent of America, they now aſſiduouſly purſued old Louis's plan of forming a chain of forts and ſettlements from the mouth of the great river Miſſiſippi up to their province of Canada,, thereby to cut off our continental ſettlements from any commerce with the vaſt Indian countries weſtward, and in time to get poſſeſſion of them all. For that end they had ſtrongly fortified the iſle of Cape Breton, at or near the entrance of the great river of St. Lawrence, ſerving as well to command that entrance as to protect a very great cod fiſhery, which they have of late ſo vaſtly increaſed in the neighbouring ſeas.

Thirdly, From Quebec, their capital of Canada, they had opened and fortified a communication with the lakes lying behind, and properly as much belonging to our province of New York as any other part of that province can be ſaid to be; and had alſo taken poſſeſſion of the fertile lands round thoſe lakes, much of which they had already cleared and in part cultivated; where they had plentiful crops of wheat, and had alſo found lead mines, which further enabled them to improve their trade with the neighbouring Indians. And (by already endeavouring to remove ſuch Indian nations from the neighbourhood of the Miſſiſippi river as might endanger its navigation) deſigning to carry their wheat, &c. down that vaſt ſtream to New Orleans their Miſſiſippi capital, from thence to ſupply their ſugar colonies therewith, poſſibly cheaper than our northern plantations can at preſent do.—They had alſo planted tobacco in that country, and had begun to ſaw timber for lumber, with a ſimilar view to a trade from thence with their ſugar iſlands. Weſtward they were ſaid to have already extended their communi-

cation

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1737 cation as far as the Spaniſh province of New Mexico; caſting, no doubt, a longing eye on the rich ſilver mines there.—Eaſtward from the Miſſiſippi river, they had by this time ſettled ſo far up the Albanus river as to have forts thereon, within twenty days march of Charles Town, the capital of South Carolina.

Of all which vaſt improvements and encroachments on the territories of other nations, and eſpecially of our own, authentic accounts were laid before our government and our Board of Trade; yet no effectual regard was ſhewn to them: neither did the court of Spain ſeem more to regard their encroachments in the Miſſiſippi country, and on their province of Florida, nor even their more dangerous approach towards New Mexico.

In the Eaſt India commerce alſo, France, as we have before partly ſhewn, had by this time greatly increaſed, even beyond belief, without being duly regarded by ſuch who might, in the beginning, have ruined it and moſt of the above encroachments, had vigorous meaſures been taken in due time.

All which particulars we have here judged fit to be laid together before our readers, at one ſummary view, in order the better to illuſtrate and explain what may hereafter fall in our way in reſpect to the all-graſping deſigns of France, for univerſal commerce as well as dominion In treating of which, and ſeveral other points, it will be impoſſible to avoid obſcurity, without having recourſe to a brief repetition of ſome things, previouſly conſidered in other parts of our work. And although, by our ſubſequent amazing ſucceſs againſt the French colonies in America, matters have been ſince greatly changed, yet the ſteps taken by that nation are well worth tracing, as mementos for futurity.

There was at this time much ſaid in pamphlets and newſpapers in favour of the importation of iron and hemp from the Britiſh continental American colonies, as being two articles of the laſt importance for our navy-royal, and our mercantile ſhipping, as well as for numberleſs other ſervices; and petitions, for this end, were preſented by the merchants to Parliament.

Firſt, It was computed that England imported annually about twenty thouſand tons of foreign iron, whereof fifteen thouſand tons were from Sweden, which coſt about one hundred and fifty thouſand pounds, moſtly paid for by us in money, as are moſt of the other five thouſand tons brought from Ruſſia; and that our exports of wrought iron are from three thouſand to three thouſand five hundred tons per annum.

Secondly, That the iron of the Britiſh colonies is as good as any foreign iron whatever; and, with proper encouragement, might be imported in quantities ſufficient to ſupply all the iron we get from thoſe two nations, on whom we are at preſent dependent for that commodity, without their taking ſufficient quantities of our product and manufactures in return; whereas, our own colonies would be entirely paid by our woollen and other manufactures, the demand for which would thereby be much increaſed from thence; and about one hundred and eighty thouſand pounds per annum, would be clearly ſaved to the nation, in the balance of our trade.

It was moreover computed, that England makes annually, at home, about eighteen thouſand tons of bar-iron; the quantity of which, it was ſaid, we could not increaſe, by reaſon of our woods being ſo far exhauſted, as to have greatly enhanced the price of cord-wood uſed in the refining of iron-ſtone: and, were we to import more pig-iron from America, and make leſs of it at home, we ſhould be able, with the ſame quantity of wood we now conſume, to make much more bar iron at home.

 Thirdly,

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1737 Thirdly, That nothing is more likely to prevent our American colonies from falling into ſuch manufactures as muſt interfere with our own iron, &c. manufactures, than the giving them encouragements for raiſing and ſending to us ſuch rough materials as pig, ſow, and bar-iron, hemp, &c. as it is well-known of what great advantage to this kingdom the bounties on the importation of pitch and tar from thence have been, ſince the year 1703.

Fourthly, That, for this end, a duty ſhould be laid in the ſaid colonies on all iron imported there from Europe; and that, had the like been done in regard to the prohibiting of the importation of hemp from Europe into thoſe colonies, the bounty now ſubſiſting on American hemp would have, by this time, proved effectual for ſupplying us from thence with all the hemp we want.

On the other hand, the great and natural oppoſers to the merchants petitions, were the proprietors of the Engliſh iron works, and thoſe of the woodlands of England; but as particular intereſt alone was ſo ſtrongly concerned againſt ſo viſible a national benefit, that oppoſition ſeemed then not to be much regarded by impartial men, at leaſt without doors. In fine, the promoters of this ſcheme for encouraging the importation of iron from our American colonies, propoſed, that an additional duty ſhould be laid on all foreign bar iron imported, excepting only ſuch as ſhall be imported from our American colonies:—and to repeal the preſent foreign duty on all bar-iron which may hereafter be imported from the ſaid plantations. Yet ſo many jarring intereſts prevented the legiſlature, at this time, from forming any regulations, though in a matter of ſo much importance.

" In November of this year 1737, the Jamaica merchants petitioned King George II. to be " protected againſt the great and violent interruptions and ſeizures committed by Spaniſh ſhips " in the American ſeas, under the plauſible pretences of guarding their own coaſts, by not " only ſtopping and ſearching, but alſo, for many years paſt, forcibly and arbitrarily ſeizing " their ſhips on the high ſeas, inhumanly treating the Britiſh commanders and ſailors, and " condemning our ſhips and cargoes as lawful prizes, in manifeſt violation of ſolemn treaties " between Great Britain and Spain:—in conſequence of which, the preſent trade to his Ma-" jeſty's plantations in America is rendered extremely precarious;—humbly praying therefore, " ſpeedy and ample ſatisfaction to his ſubjects for thoſe loſſes:—and that no Britiſh veſſel be " detained or ſearched on the high ſeas by any nation, under any pretence whatſoever:—and " that the trade to America may be rendered ſafe for the future."

This petition his Majeſty received very graciouſly, and promiſed redreſs upon their making good their allegations to the Privy Council, which they afterwards did, in the moſt ſatiſfactory manner.

And here we muſt obſerve, that whereas by the treaty of 1670, ſubſiſting between us and Spain, our ſhips are not to reſort or trade to the coaſt of New Spain and its adjoining Spaniſh provinces, unleſs driven thither by ſtreſs of weather, their ſailing near to thoſe ſhores renders them liable to be ſuſpected of carrying on a contraband trade with thoſe American provinces of Spain; the trade to which is abſolutely and ſtrictly confined to Spaniards alone.—Indeed, to ſay the truth, there is ſcarcely any doubt to be made, that our ſloops, &c. from Jamaica, and ſome other Britiſh colonies, did ſometimes run the hazard, for the ſake of gain, and therefore ought to ſubmit to the conſequences. So, on the other hand, it is notorious, that the Spaniſh guarda coſtas, *i. e.* guard-ſhips, did frequently exceed their powers or commiſſions, by ſearching, plundering, and often ſeizing on our Britiſh ſhips ſailing on thoſe American ſeas, even though not ſo near their ſhores as to give juſt ground of ſuſpicion of any clandeſtine trade,

and

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1737 and though not laden with the produce of the Spanish American provinces; but only, perhaps, having, by mere chance, a very few Spanish pieces of eight on board found in the ship, or perhaps a small parcel of logwood, or other Spanish American merchandize found in such ship; the first being the only coin in our island of Jamaica, and the two last the produce of that island.

In short, these mutual complaints did, a few years after, bring on the war between Great Britain and Spain: and although the peace of Aix-la-Chapelle, in the year 1748, seemed to terminate that affair, yet it was but barely to seem to do it; and a new and more distinct or explicit treaty was still wanting, if intended by either party, for that point, and also for the logwood trade of our British subjects in the Bay of Campeachy. To these complaints of our merchants, an answer was indeed given, in June 1738, by the court of Spain, wherein most of the grievances and violences were promised to be redressed, and the rest were referred to the enquiry of the Spanish governors in America; who were themselves incompetent judges of the business, as being parties to many of those violences, and many of them privately concerned in those guarda-costas. And thus matters remained, till repeated injuries obliged his Britannic Majesty to declare war against Spain, after having in vain tried by an amicable convention, in the year 1739, as will be seen, to preserve peace.

Christened in London, in the year 1737, sixteen thousand seven hundred and sixty souls.—Buried, twenty-seven thousand eight hundred and twenty-three. Increased in the burials this year, two hundred and forty-two.

1738 By a British statute of the eleventh year of King George the Second, cap. xxvii. one million of the capital stock of the Bank of England was paid off, being a moiety and further part of the two millions capital created by an act of the third year of King George the First. So that the capital stock of the Bank of England was hereby reduced to three millions eight hundred and seventy-five thousand twenty-seven pounds seventeen shillings and ten pence: (five hundred thousand pounds, other part of the said two millions, having been paid off by an act of the first year of King George the Second, For granting an Aid to his Majesty by the Sale of Annuities to the Bank, &c.)

Sir William Keith, in his History of Virginia, p. 174, published in this year 1738, gives the following account of the revenue of that colony, as it then stood, and is established by acts of their assemblies, viz.

	£.
" First, The annual receipt of quit-rents, at two shillings sterling per one hundred acres, being the revenue of the crown, paid into the receipt of the King's private Exchequer, is an increasing fund, amounting at present to about - - - - - - -	3,500
" Secondly, The two shillings sterling per hogshead on tobacco exported, at a medium of thirty-two thousand hogsheads per annum, is - -	3,200
" Out of which, also increasing, tax, is paid the governor's salary of two thousand pounds per annum.	
" Thirdly, One shilling, sterling, per ton, on ten thousand tons of shipping yearly, is - - - - - -	500
Carried forward £.	7,200

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	£.
Brought forward	7,200
"Fourthly, The eftablifhed fees for marriage licences, probates of wills, and "entering and clearing of fhips; together with other legal perquifites belong- "ing to the governor refiding there, is, per annum - -	600
	£. 7,800

It is more than probable, that, fince that time, every one of the faid four articles were confiderably increafed.

There was imported into the port of London, on the twenty-third of October 1738, one hundred and fifty-one thoufand two hundred and nineteen yards of linen, manufactured in Scotland, and alfo three thoufand fpindles of their linen yarn. Such large entries of the linen manufacture, both from Scotland and Ireland, of late, every year increafing, merit the higheft encouragement; as they do not only ufefully employ our own people, and better enable them to pay taxes, excife, &c. and to confume more of the product of the country, but, which is of very great importance in the general balance of our commerce, as their faid linen manufactures fhall gradually increafe, the importation of foreign linen muft neceffarily decreafe in the fame proportion.

The London bill of mortality for the year 1738, viz. Chriftened, fixteen thoufand and fixty. Buried, twenty-five thoufand eight hundred and twenty-five.—Decreafed in the burials this year, one thoufand nine hundred and ninety-eight.

It is not fo eafy as fome have pretended, to account for this and many of the preceding years large mortality bills of London, compared with much later years, whilft no extraordinary fickness happened, and whilft at the fame time great additions were conftantly making to the buildings in its fuburbs. The beft reafons ufually given for the late decreafe of its bills of mortality, are:

Firft, The many hofpitals fince erected for fick perfons, whereby, and by the fmall-pox, &c. hofpitals, the practice of inoculation, &c. many lives are probably preferved, which were formerly loft.

Secondly, Many private dwelling-houfes in many parts within the city of London are from the very vifible increafe of our commerce, pulled down and turned into warehoufes for merchandize, in confequence of which, the number of houfholders are fenfibly decreafed within the Lord Mayor's jurifdiction: but this we doubt will fcarcely be admitted as any good reafon for the general decreafe of the burials, unlefs it appeared, that thofe houfeholders had removed from within the limits of the general bills of mortality.

Thirdly, The wars in Germany and America undoubtedly had, at this time, carried away fome thoufands of our lower people, vagrants, &c.

Laftly, It is much to be fufpected, as elfewhere obferved, that the Company of Parifh Clerks of London either have not fufficient powers, by law, or elfe do not exert thofe powers, for enabling them to be more exact in their faid weekly bills.

Under this year we have feen briefly related the barbarous and illegal captures of our Britifh merchant fhips on the high feas of America by the Spanifh guarda-coftas, or veffels pretending to be fuch. Thofe grievances were loudly complained of by our Merchants, and the Houfe of Commons, in the year 1738, did thereupon addrefs the King for the purpofe of obtaining due fatisfaction

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1738 satisfaction of the court of Spain. Moreover, the British House of Peers, in the same year, came to the following resolution, viz. "That the Spaniards searching of our ships on the "open seas, under pretence of their carrying contraband or prohibited goods, is a violation "of the treaties subsisting between the two crowns." Hereupon, the strongest remonstrances being made to the Spanish court, the King acquainted his Parliament, that he had concluded a preliminary convention with Spain, stipulating in substance;

"I. That immediately after the signing thereof, two plenipotentiaries on each side should "meet at Madrid, finally to regulate the respective pretensions of the two crowns.

"II. Until the limits of Florida and Carolina can be adjusted, things shall remain there in "their present situation.

"III. His Catholic Majesty shall cause to be paid to his Britannic Majesty ninety-five "thousand pounds sterling, as a balance admitted to be due to the crown and subjects of "Great Britain, after deduction made of the demands of the crown and subjects of Spain; "to the end that the above-mentioned sum, together with the amount of what has been ac-"knowledged on the part of Great Britain to be due to Spain on her demands, may be em-"ployed by his Britannic Majesty for the satisfaction and payment of the demands of his sub-"jects upon the crown of Spain. But this reciprocal discharge shall not relate nor extend to "the differences subsisting between the crown of Spain and the South Sea Company, nor to "any particular or private contracts between either of the two crowns, or their ministers, "with the subjects of the other, or between the subjects of one crown with those of the "other.

"IV. If it shall happen that, in consequence of orders dispatched by the court of Spain, "any part of the value of certain ships taken from the English and included in the aforesaid "ninety-five thousand pounds be already paid, the same shall be deducted therefrom.

"First separate article. The said ninety-five thousand pounds shall be caused to be paid by "his Catholic Majesty at London, within four months after the ratification of this con-"vention.

"Second separate article. The third above-named article shall not extend to ships taken "since the tenth of December 1737: in which cases justice shall be done according to the "treaties, as if this convention had not been made. It being however understood, that this "relates only to the indemnification and satisfaction to be made for the effects seized or "prizes taken: but that the decision of the cases which may happen, in order to remove all "pretext for dispute, is to be referred to the plenipotentiaries to be determined according to "the treaties."

This is the substance of a convention, which made so much noise and gave so much disgust in England. What gave the greatest disgust of all was, the King of Spain's following declaration and protest, which he insisted on as a preliminary condition of his ratifying the above convention, viz.

"That he reserves to himself, in its full force, the right of being able to suspend the As-"siento for negroes, and of dispatching the necessary orders for the execution thereof, in "case the South Sea Company doth not subject herself to pay, within a short term, the sum "of sixty-eight thousand pounds sterling, which she has confessed to be owing on the duty "for negroes, according to the regulation of fifty-two pence per dollar, and on the profits of "the ship Royal Caroline: and further declares, that under the validity and force of this pro-"test the signing of the said convention may be proceeded on, and in no other manner."

The

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1739 The injuſtice of which previous demand on the company was ſo apparent, that, ſoon after, the company's general court, on the firſt of March, reſolved not to pay the ſame, without the King of Spain's coming to a juſt account with them for all the ſeizures and captures of their ſhips and merchandize which he had by former agreements engaged to refund to them, viz.

"I. On our rupture with Spain, in the year 1718, the King of Spain ſeized on all the "company's effects in every part of his dominions, amounting to about one million of dol- "lars, or nearly, in ſterling money, to two hundred and twenty-five thouſand pounds, whilſt "the company's factories were kept up at La Vera Cruz, Panama, Porto Bello, Carthagena, "and Buenos Ayres; and two agents at Madrid; all which was a very great expence.— "Which ſum the King of Spain engaged to make good to the company by the treaty of the "year 1721.

"II. The King of Spain having, in the year 1727, beſieged Gibraltar, he again ſeized on "every thing belonging to the South Sea Company, amounting to about half a million of "dollars, or about one hundred and twenty-two thouſand pounds."

Yet, in the treaty of that ſame year, he promiſed not only to reſtore this laſt-named ſeizure, but alſo the preceding one of the year 1718; though all that was ever received was but a mere trifle, compared to their whole loſs. Now, thoſe confiſcations were the more unjuſt, as being expreſsly contrary to the ſaid Aſſiento Contract; wherein it is ſtipulated, that whatever differences may ariſe between the two crowns, the company ſhall be always allowed eighteen months for the removal of their effects. The company has alſo further demands on the King of Spain: for inſtance,

Firſt, Their juſt claim on him, for one-fourth part of all their loſſes ſuſtained in trade; as by the Aſſiento Contract he was to be a quarter part ſharer in their ſaid trade.

Secondly, The King of Spain ought to make good the loſs the South Sea Company has ſuſtained by his frequent refuſal of their annual ſhip, as well as by the number of ſuch annual ſhips ſhort of what they ſhould have been allowed by the ſaid Aſſiento Contract.

Thirdly, The company has yet further demands to make, whenever a treaty ſhall be ſet on foot: but, in the mean time, theſe conſiderations are more than ſufficient to juſtify their proceedings, and to demonſtrate that the court of Spain was never diſpoſed in earneſt to do juſtice to our injured people. For the King of Spain did not only ſuffer the four months to elapſe, within which time he was to pay the before-named ninety-five thouſand pounds, on the pretext of the South Sea Company's failure of paying his demand of the ſixty-eight thouſand pounds, but, inſtead of fulfilling the aforeſaid convention, he ordered ſeizures to be made of the ſhips and goods of his Majeſty's ſubjects wherever they could be found in his dominions or elſewhere; and alſo ordered all the Britiſh ſubjects in his dominions to depart in a ſhorter time than allowed by treaties. Whereupon Geraldino, his envoy extraordinary, and Terry, his agent, at London, for the Aſſiento Contract, were obliged to leave the kingdom. And his Britannic Majeſty, on the twenty-third of October 1739, declared war againſt Spain; for maintaining the honour of his crown and kingdom, and for the obtaining redreſs of his much injured merchants and traders, who from all parts of the kingdom made earneſt petitions for relief.

It was indeed high time for our government to take this ſtep, though with more than ſeeming reluctance, for the violences and inſolence of the Spaniards in America were become abſolutely intolerable: principally owing to our own ſhamefully puſillanimous temporizing at any rate, rather than reſolutely doing ourſelves juſtice by force of arms; though they perſiſted

more

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1739 more than ever in the searching and seizing of British ships, and putting their commanders into irons and prisons, as well as detaining the South Sea Company's ships, and locking up that company's warehouses at *Porto Bello*, Carthagena, *Havanna*, &c.

By a British statute of this twelfth year of King George the Second, cap. xxi. it was enacted, " That whereas the taking off the duties upon woollen or bay yarn imported from Ireland " may be a means to prevent the exportation of wool and of woollen manufactures from Ireland to foreign parts, and may also be of use to the manufacturers of Great Britain, that, " from the first of May 1740, the same shall be no longer payable; excepting only the duties " upon worsted yarn of two or more threads twisted or thrown, or on cruel, imported from " Ireland. And whereas, notwithstanding the several laws for preventing the exportation of " wool unmanufactured from Britain and Ireland to foreign parts, such exportation is notoriously continued. For further prevention thereof, it was further enacted, that all wool, " woollen or bay yarn, woolfels, shortlings, mortlings, woolflocks, worsted yarn, cloth, " serge, bays, kersies, says, frises, druggets, cloth serges, shalloons, stuffs, and other draperies, or mixed with wool or woolflocks; which shall from time to time be exported from " Ireland into the ports of this kingdom hereafter-mentioned, shall be shipped off and entered " at the ports of Dublin, Waterford, Youghal, Kingsale, Cork, Drogheda, New Ross, " Newry, Wexford, Wicklow, Sligo, Limerick, Galway, and Dundalk; and from no other " part of Ireland whatever. Nor to any other ports of Britain but to Biddiford, Barnstaple, " Minehead, Bridgewater, Bristol, Milford-haven, Chester, and Liverpool. And in vessels " only of the built of Great Britain or Ireland, and duly registered upon oath." With several other clauses for preventing of frauds herein, needless here to be particularized.

Upon this subject, the author of Considerations now laid before the British Parliament, relating to the running of wool, thinks it highly probable, " That more than one million five " hundred thousand people are employed in our British woollen manufacture: and if these " earn one with another six-pence per day for three hundred and thirteen working days in the " year, it will amount to eleven millions seven hundred and thirty-seven thousand five hun- " dred pounds." Which is rightly computed, and demonstrates the immense benefit of this manufacture.

The French having gradually gained the ascendant over us in supplying the European market with their sugars, by being permitted to carry them directly from their own Sugar Islands to foreign parts, without being first landed in France, it was therefore enacted by a British statute of this twelfth year of King George the Second, cap. xxx. To grant Liberty to carry Sugars of the Growth, Produce, or Manufacture of any British Sugar Colonies in America, from the said colonies directly to foreign Parts Southward of Cape Finisterre, in Ships built in Great Britain, and navigated according to Law. The major part of the proprietors of which ships shall, upon oath, be residing in Great Britain, and the residue in the British Sugar Islands, and not elsewhere, and cleared out from Great Britain or the said British Sugar Islands; on certain conditions therein specified. The French had the advantage of us in this prudent regulation by at least twelve years, as appears by their edicts in the years 1726 and 1727.

In consequence of a British statute, for laying a duty on the tonnage of all ships belonging or trading to or from the port of Liverpool, for the making of a dock, piers, &c. for that port, we have seen a printed list of all the ships belonging to that famous maritime port and town, taken on the first of May 1739: in which it appeared, that their number from thirty

tons

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1739 tons and upwards was two hundred and eleven ſhips and veſſels, amongſt which that year, there were one of four hundred tons—one of three hundred and fifty—one of three hundred—one of two hundred and fifty—two of three hundred and forty—two of two hundred—two of one hundred and ninety—four of one hundred and eighty—ſeven of one hundred and ſixty—fifteen of one hundred and fifty—ten of one hundred and forty—five of one hundred and thirty—thirteen of one hundred and twenty—ſix of one hundred and ten—and ſixteen of one hundred tons each; the reſt from ninety to thirty tons downward. And although the printing of the number of their ſhips be ſince laid aſide, we are well aſſured that the number of ſhipping of that port is ſince very greatly increaſed.

On this ſubject we may remark, that during the year 1738 there arrived, or were entered inwards at the port of Amſterdam one thouſand eight hundred and thirteen ſhips of all ſorts; where Deſcartes, (ſays the Happy future State of England, already quoted in this work) p. 167, in one of his epiſtles, remarks, that all people are traders. *Ubi nemo non mercaturam exercet.* Boyer's Political State, for the month of January 1739, (N. S.) from whom that number of ſhips is taken, remarks, "that the Amſterdamers conjecture, that London has "double the number of ſhips frequenting their port."

In the ſame year Rotterdam had about five hundred ſhips entered inwards.

At London, in this year 1739, chriſtened ſixteen thouſand one hundred and eighty-one: buried twenty-five thouſand four hundred and thirty-two. Decreaſed in the burials in this year three hundred and ninety-three.

Exported in the year 1739 from South Carolina, viz.

Rice	71,484	barrels.
Pitch	8,095	
Turpentine	33	
Tar	2,734	
Deer Skins	559	hogſheads.
Looſe ſkins unpacked	1,196	
Indian corn and peas	20,165	buſhels.
Pine and Cypreſs timber and planks	209,190	feet.
Cedar boards	3,200	
Shingles	42,600	pieces.
Caſk ſtaves	56,821	
Tanned leather	1,535	hides.
Roſin	45	barrels.
Saſſafras	4½	tons.
Beef and pork	539	barrels.
Potatoes	790	buſhels.

Cleared outward two hundred and thirty-eight ſhips and veſſels.

1740 In this year was firſt erected in Sweden, A Board for the encouraging of Trade and Manufactures; which has proved very advantageous to that nation.

For the better ſupply of ſeamen to ſerve in Britiſh ſhips of war, and alſo on board of merchant ſhips and privateers, and for the better carrying on the preſent war againſt Spain, or any future war, an act of the Britiſh Parliament paſſed in the thirteenth year of King George II. cap. iii. For the better Supply of Mariners and Seamen to ſerve in his Majeſty's Ships of War, and on board Merchant Ships, &c. "Whereby, during the preſent war, merchants

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1740 "ships may be navigated by any number of foreign seamen, not exceeding three-fourths of "the ship's company. And for the better encouragement of foreign seamen to serve on board "British ships, either of war, merchant ships, or privateers, during this war, such foreign "seamen so serving for two years, shall afterward be deemed in all respects natural-born sub- "jects. Provided, they shall not thereby be enabled to be of the Privy Council, or to be a "member of either House of Parliament, or to take any office of trust, civil or military, or "to have any grant of lands, &c. from the crown to himself, or to any other person in trust "for him. And the King, his heirs, and successors, are hereby empowered in any future "war, by proclamation, during such war, and no longer, to permit the like number of "foreign seamen to serve in merchant ships or privateers, as well as in ships of war.

This prudent law was followed by another very wise one, which bears, in many respects, a striking resemblance to it: viz.

A statute of the said thirteenth year of King George II. cap. vii. For naturalizing such foreign Protestants, and others therein mentioned, as are settled, or shall settle, in any of his Majesty's Colonies in America, the preamble whereof sets forth, That "whereas the increase "of people is the means of advancing the wealth and strength of any nation or country; and "whereas many foreigners and strangers, from the lenity of our government, the purity of "our religion, the benefit of our laws, the advantages of our trade, and the security of our "property, might be induced to come and settle in some of his Majesty's colonies in America, "if they were made partakers of the advantages and privileges which the natural-born subjects "of this realm do enjoy."—It was now therefore enacted, "That, from the first day of "June, 1740, all persons born out of the liegance of his Majesty, who shall have resided, or "shall hereafter reside, for the space of seven years, or more, in any of his colonies in Ame- "rica, and shall not have been absent from thence above two months at any one time, and "shall take the usual oaths of fidelity, or, if Quakers, shall subscribe the declaration of fide- "lity; or, if Jews, with the omission of some Christian expressions—and shall also subscribe "the profession of their Christian belief, Jews excepted, as directed by a statute of the first of "William and Mary, entitled, An Act for exempting their Majesties Protestant Subjects "from the Penalties of certain Laws, before any judge of the colony they shall reside in, and "shall have received the sacrament of the Lord's Supper in some Protestant or Reformed con- "gregation in Great Britain, or in the said colonies, Quakers and Jews excepted, within "three months of his or her so qualifying, and producing a certificate hereof, signed by the "minister of the said congregation, attested by two witnesses: a certificate of all which, un- "der the respective colony's seal, shall be a sufficient proof of his or her being thereby become "a natural-born subject of Great Britain, to all intents and purposes whatsoever. And the "Secretary of each colony shall annually transmit to the Board of Trade and Plantations, lists "of the said persons so naturalized, to be registered in their office. Provided," as in the before-named act of Parliament, "That such persons shall not thereby be enabled to be a "privy counsellor, &c. as in other naturalization statutes."

The more immediate object of this statute was to favour some thousands of Protestants persecuted and oppressed in Germany, and elsewhere, as well as many Protestants from Switzerland, &c. all of whom were before and about this time settled in the different provinces of the British continental colonies of America, chiefly on the back parts thereof westward.

By a statute of the said thirteenth of King George II. cap. xvii. For the increase of Mariners and Seamen to navigate Merchant-ships, and other trading Ships and Vessels, it was enacted,

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1740 "First, That all seamen of the age of fifty-five years, or upwards, and all such as have not "attained the full age of eighteen years, and also all foreigners serving in any British merchant-ships, or privateers, shall be exempted from being impressed into his Majesty's "service.

"Secondly, Persons of any age using the sea, shall also be exempted from being impressed "for the first two years of his being at sea; as likewise all sea apprentices, for the first three "years of their said apprenticeship."

It was in or about this year 1740, or perhaps somewhat earlier, that the manufacturing of *tin-plates*, or, more properly, of thin plates of iron tinned over, which foreigners term white-iron, was brought to such perfection in England, after having been long lost or neglected, so that now very little of it was imported from foreign parts; our own being now made of a finer gloss or coat than that made beyond-sea, the latter being hammered, and ours being drawn under a rolling-mill. This improvement is a considerable benefit to the nation in the general annual balance of trade, there being a very great quantity of this manufacture consumed in Britain, Ireland, and the plantations, for many necessary and various uses. And although the duty on foreign tinned plates is hereby sunk, yet the employment given to our own manufacturers thereof, and the money kept at home which was formerly paid for this commodity from Hamburg, greatly over-balances the loss of the customs thereon. It was indeed long justly wondered at, that England, which had the best tin in Europe, and in greatest quantity, and had iron enough for the purpose, should have so long continued to pay such great sums to foreign nations for what we might long since have made our own. The making of tinned-plates was one of the projects named bubbles of the year 1720, as elsewhere shewn. And although nothing might then be seriously intended by it but to pick the pockets of the credulous; yet some persons of judgment soon after seriously attempted it with success.

By a British statute of this thirteenth year of King George II. cap. xxviii. For continuing the several Laws therein mentioned, relating to the Premiums upon the Importation of Masts, Yards, Bowsprits, Tar, Pitch, Turpentine, Sail-cloth, &c. amongst other matters, "the "bounty of twenty shillings per ton on ships employed in the whale-fishery, was not only "further continued to the twenty-fifth of December, 1750, but also an additional bounty of "ten shillings per ton was granted on the said whale-fishing ships, to continue during our "then war with Spain only: during which time it was hereby also enacted, That no harpooner, line-manager, boat-steerer, or seaman, in that fishery, should be impressed from "the said service." Which statute shews the sense the legislature of that day entertained of the benefits accruing to the public by the whale-fishery.

The current advices this year from Constantinople gave an account, that the Turks had just begun to establish regular posts for the carriage of letters throughout their dominions, after the manner of Christendom; which they hoped would be very advantageous to their commerce, and likewise to the Sultan's revenue, which had been greatly impaired by their late wars with the Emperor and with Russia.

In this same year 1740, it appeared, by the information of persons of worth, concerned in the two British colonies of Virginia and Maryland, that about two hundred British ships were annually and constantly employed in that trade, viz. about eighty or ninety sail for Virginia, and about one hundred and ten to one hundred and twenty to Maryland: that the ships trading thither from the out-ports of Great Britain were generally of a lesser burthen than were those from the port of London: and that of about thirty thousand hogsheads of tobacco, annually imported from those two colonies into Great Britain, eighteen thousand were brought home

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1740 in the London ſhips. Alſo that this computation was excluſive of the veſſels employed by thoſe two colonies in their trade with the other Britiſh continental and iſland colonies of America.

The anonymous author of a pamphlet, entitled, The preſent State of the Revenues and Forces of France and Spain, compared with thoſe of Great Britain, (octavo, 1740) aſſerts, " That in France there were not more than ſix hundred ſail of merchant-ſhips, at the moſt, " of all ſizes: and that, reckoning twenty-five ſailors to each, one with another, all the ſea- " men of France did not exceed thirty thouſand, including the eleven thouſand ſeamen claſſed " by the King, who have leave to ſerve on board the merchant-ſhips, till wanted for the King's " ſervice. And, that in caſe of a naval war with Britain, France will be obliged to augment " her marine to what it was in their former war with England, viz. to one hundred and " twenty ſhips of war, and forty gallies." What this plauſible and ſpirited writer computes, might then poſſibly be true; but we have ſince had recent experience, that both their merchant-ſhips and ſailors were conſiderably more in number than he then computed them to be.

In the ſame year his Britannic Majeſty, by letters-patent, erected civil and criminal courts of juſtice at his town and port of Gibraltar. How far this regulation, had it been put in practice, would have influenced greater numbers of Britiſh ſubjects to ſettle there, we ſhall not venture preciſely to gueſs; but, if that ſhould come to be the caſe, the rents of houſes would gradually increaſe, and therewith fines upon entry,—acknowlegements for landing of goods, as at Leghorn, and other free ports,—anchorage in the bay,—leaſes of ground,—ſome moderate taxes on liquors and proviſions conſumed there,—and ſuch other benefits which might naturally be expected from a civil government's being there actually eſtabliſhed under the mild laws and privileges of a Britiſh conſtitution; which might poſſibly, altogether, occaſion ſuch a revenue to accrue to the crown and nation there, as might in time eaſe the public of more than ſixty thouſand pounds per annum, which that moſt uſeful and important fort and port coſts the Britiſh nation. Why our expectations, in theſe reſpects, have not been fully anſwered hitherto, lies properly before a higher tribunal than we ſhall name, whoſe intereſt is ſo nearly concerned therein, and whoſe power, as well as inclinations, when proper informations ſhall be laid before them, can undoubtedly rectify whatever ſhall be found to have been hitherto amiſs.

In this ſame year, his Majeſty King George II. of Great Britain, and ſovereign of the town of Staden, in the duchy of Bremen, was graciouſly pleaſed entirely to remit to all Britiſh and Iriſh ſhips the ancient toll payable at Staden by the ſhips of all nations in ſailing up the river Elbe. For which bounty, as in duty bound, his ſaid Majeſty received an humble addreſs of thanks from the Britiſh Company of Merchant-adventurers trading to Hamburg.

The King of Great Britain having been addreſſed in the preceding year by his Parliament, for regulating the currency of the paper-money of his American continental colonies, we ſhall here exhibit the then preſent value thereof as follows, viz.

	£. *currency.**	
New England, (*i. e.* principally Maſſachuſet's Bay) Connecticut, Rhode Iſland, and New Hampſhire,	525	For 100l. ſterling money.
New York — — —	160	
The Jerſeys — — — —	160	
Pennſylvania — — —	170	
Maryland — — —	200	
North Carolina — — —	1,400	
South Carolina — — —	800	

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1740 * In a letter, on this occaſion, from a merchant at Boſton, in New England, to a friend in England, concerning the different values of paper currency in the Britiſh plantations, we have an explanation hereof, viz.

"Upon the continuance of a favourable turn in the trading circumſtances of the province " of New England, the government might ſtop at any rate which ſilver ſhould fall to, and " make that rate the fixed ſilver pound, and make it a lawful tender; and the common con- " ſent or acceptance of the people would complete the ſcheme of ſilver money. And thus " the ſterling pound is fixed, in England, to three ounces ſeventeen pennyweights and ten " grains of ſilver of a certain fineneſs, or ſilver at five ſhillings and two-pence per ounce. But " if that kingdom were under our unhappy circumſtances, as not having a ſufficiency in value " of ſilver and all other exports, to diſcharge the whole demand in return for their" (that is, Great Britain's) " imports; it would then be next to a miracle if ſilver did not riſe to " above five ſhillings and two-pence per ounce in the markets, in proportion to the balance " of debt againſt them: and their trading circumſtances continuing to decline, as ours have, " their ſilver would be brought to twenty-ſeven ſhillings per ounce, as ours is, and the cur- " rent money of Great Britain be at the rate of twenty-ſeven ſhillings per ounce, whatever " the lawful money might be. This is evident from the ſucceſs of Queen Anne's procla- " mation, in the third year of her reign, and the act of Parliament ſubſequent upon it, de- " ſigned to fix the plantation pound to two ounces ſixteen pennyweights ſixteen grains of ſil- " ver, of the fineneſs of common pieces of eight, at ſix ſhillings and ten-pence halfpenny per " ounce: which moſt certainly was well intended, but for the aforeſaid reaſons could not take " effect; and there is but one plantation that I know of, viz. Barbadoes, where common " ſilver is received by weight, agreeable thereto; Virginia not ſo high, and all the others " beyond that ſtandard, in very different degrees."

In the month of Auguſt, 1740, the ſale of the French Eaſt India Company's merchandize at Port L'Orient amounted to twenty-two millions of livres, or about one million ſterling; which ſufficiently demonſtrates the vaſt increaſe of that company's commerce to Eaſt India, in the ſpace of a few years paſt.

One thouſand ſix hundred and forty-five ſhips were entered inward at Amſterdam, during the year 1740; which is one hundred and ſixty-eight ſhips fewer than in the year 1738.

At that city, in the ſaid year 1740, there died ten thouſand and fifty-ſix perſons; being above two thouſand five hundred more than in the preceding year.

At Paris, in the year	1739,	chriſtened	19,781
———	1740,	———	18,632
	In both years		38,413
At Paris, in the year	1739,	buried,	21,989
———	1740,	———	25,284
	In both years	½—	47,273
	Average of burials		23,636½ in one year.

Being ſtill at war with Spain, his Majeſty of Great Britain had ſent out, in this ſame year 1740, an experienced commander, Commodore George Anſon, Eſq. afterwards a peer of the realm, and worthily placed at the head of the Admiralty-board, with one ſhip of ſixty guns,

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1740 two of fifty guns each, one of forty, and one of twenty guns, a sloop, and two victuallers, into the South Seas of America, for the purpose of distressing Spain as much as possible. It is true, this expedition was rather a matter of war than of commercial history; yet, as it has some relation to commerce, and as it likewise shews the weak state of Spain in the South Sea, when at war with us, it appears to be proper, though very briefly, to relate its success.

The Commodore sailed from Portsmouth in September 1740, and in May 1741, he got round Terra del Feugo into the South Sea, after much peril and loss by storms. In September 1741, he took a rich Spanish prize; and, coasting along Chili, in November, in the same, year, he took another Spanish prize, laden with cloth and iron. Sailing to the coast of Peru, he took, plundered, and burnt the town of Payta, in the same month and year. Then he sailed to the coast of Mexico, and opposite to the harbour of Acapulco, he learned that the Manilla ship was not to sail during that season; wherefore, in May 1742, he steered westward for the coast of China, where he arrived in November 1742, and remained in the road of Macao until April 1743, when he sailed for the Philippine Isles; where, in June 1743, he engaged and took an immensely rich Acapulco ship, bound for Manilla, with the treasure of which he sailed homeward, reaching the Cape of Good Hope in March 1744; and, on the fourteenth of June the same year, he anchored at Spithead, with only the Centurion, the above-mentioned sixty gun ship, all the rest being lost, or left, as unable to proceed. This circumnavigation of the terraqueous globe, was much to the glory of the nation, and to the well-merited emolument of the noble commander of it. We have, in our General Index, placed this circumnavigation as the sixth of that sort; yet we are not unacquainted, that there were others besides those six made before my Lord Anson's voyage: but those six being the most authentic, may suffice for our general purpose.

In this same year 1740, the province of South Carolina exported ninety-one thousand one hundred and ten barrels of rice, ten thousand two hundred and sixty-three barrels of pitch, two thousand three hundred and seventy-four barrels of tar, five hundred and sixty two barrels of turpentine, four hundred and thirty-two hogsheads of deer-skins, beside chests and loose ones, &c.

1741 In the year 1741, the late industrious and ingenious Mr. John Smart, of the Town-Clerk's office in London, published an accurate account of the number of houses in every precinct of the twenty-five wards within the bars, or limits of the Lord Mayor of London's jurisdiction, (the twenty-sixth ward, named Bridge Ward Without, not having any houses reckoned therein) dedicated to and for the use of the deputies and common council-men of those wards, in which account he makes the whole number of houses therein to amount but to twenty-one thousand six hundred and forty-nine. And, although in his dedication to the common-council, he desires them to correct the errors in his account, which, he says, like a modest man, "I fear are many;" yet, as he was known to be an accurate person, and that no one has animadverted on, nor contradicted the said account, we may take it for granted, that it is a true one.

How inaccurate then must writers of the former part of the preceding century have been, by magnifying the number of souls within the said jurisdiction beyond all possible probability? More especially when it is considered, that after the great conflagration, in the year 1666, very many void spaces were built up, as well as the ground of spacious houses and gardens of most of our nobility, gentry, &c. who formerly resided within those limits, and which have since been built up into narrow streets, alleys, and courts; whereby the number of houses must,

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1741 muſt, upon the whole, have been conſiderably increaſed ſince that fatal period; even although, for the greater ornament, we admit that ſeveral ſtreets, ſince that time, have been made wider and more uniform than they were before the year 1666. Of the number of perſons ſuppoſed to be contained in every houſe, one with another, in the modern city of London, enough will be found in our preface. The late great increaſe of merchants and wholeſale dealers in our own time in that city, has obliged them to pull down numbers of houſes in different parts of it, for erecting in their room large warehouſes with cellars, which farther leſſens the number of houſes in the city.

The immenſe increaſe of the linen manufacture of the kingdom of Ireland, at this time, is almoſt incredible, were there not ſo many undoubted living teſtimonies of it; enough indeed to alarm all the foreign linen countries, and to give ſolid pleaſure to all truly intelligent Britons; as whatever adds to the wealth and ſtrength of the kingdom of Ireland is a real acceſſion of ſo much of both to the Britiſh empire. In a letter from Ireland, in this ſame year 1741, we were told, that at the acceſſion of King William the Third, in the year 1689, Ireland did not export to the value of ſix thouſand pounds in linen; whereas, ſays the ſaid letter-writer, they now exported annually an hundred times as much in value, or ſix hundred thouſand pounds.

This great improvement long before was foreſeen partly and foretold by Sir William Temple, in his Miſcellanies, ſecond edition, 1681. "No women," ſays that great man, "are apter to ſpin linen thread well than the Iriſh; who, labouring little in any kind with "their hands, have their fingers more ſupple and ſoft than other women of the poor condi-"tion amongſt us. And this may certainly be advanced and improved into a great manu-"facture of linen, ſo as to beat down the trade both of France and Holland, and draw much "of the money which goes from England to thoſe parts upon this occaſion into the hands of "his Majeſty's ſubjects of Ireland, without croſſing any intereſt of trade in England. For, "beſide what has been ſaid of flax and ſpinning, the ſoil and climate are proper for whitening, "both by the frequent brooks, and alſo of winds in that country.

By the Engliſh Ruſſia Company's charter, of the firſt and ſecond of Philip and Mary, which was confirmed by a ſtatute of the eighth year of Queen Elizabeth, they have the ſole privilege of not only trading (from London) to the dominions of Ruſſia, but likewiſe to the countries of Armenia Major and Minor, Media, Hyrcania, and Perſia, on the Caſpian Sea. An attempt was accordingly made by that company for trading into Perſia by the great river Volga and the Caſpian Sea, in the year 1558, as related under that year: but that project was ſoon dropped, as being in thoſe early times thought too hazardous; and it has remained in ſuſpence ever ſince, until this year 1741, when an act of Parliament was obtained by that company, For opening a Trade to and from Perſia through Ruſſia. For which end a clauſe was inſerted in this act, fourteenth of King George II. cap. xxxvi. For opening a Trade to and from Perſia through Ruſſia; whereby the act of navigation of the twelfth of King George II. was ſo far diſpenſed with, which enjoins, that no merchandize ſhall be imported to England or Ireland but from the place of their growth, production, or manufacture, or from thoſe parts where the ſaid goods and commodities could only be had, or were uſually or actually wont to be firſt ſhipped for tranſportation. And as raw ſilk and other Perſian commodities had not been uſually brought to England through Ruſſia, it was hereby enacted, that the ſaid raw ſilk, &c. might nevertheleſs be ſo imported through Ruſſia, in Britiſh ſhips, legally navigated, ſuch raw ſilk, &c. being purchaſed by barter with woollen or other Britiſh manufac-

tures

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1741 tures or product exported to Ruſſia, upon paying the ſame cuſtoms as the Levant Company now pays for the ſame brought from the Levant.

This new ſcheme was for ſome time ſucceſsfully practiſed; conſiderable quantities of raw ſilk and other Perſian merchandize, having been imported in this way, as appears by a ſupplemental ſtatute, of the twenty-third of the ſaid King, For permitting Raw Silk, of the Growth or Produce of Perſia purchaſed in Ruſſia, to be imported into this Kingdom from any Port or Place belonging to the Empire of Ruſſia. By which laſt-named ſtatute it was enacted, "That, from Chriſtmas 1750, all freemen of the Ruſſia Company (and they only) "may import into this kingdom from Ruſſia, in Britiſh built ſhips, navigated according to "law, raw ſilk of the growth of Perſia, purchaſed by barter with woollen or other manufac- "tures, &c. from Great Britain to Ruſſia, although the ſame be not carried from thence "into Perſia, or with the produce ariſing from the ſale of ſuch commodities, and not other- "wiſe, atteſted upon oath, under the ſame cuſtoms and regulations, &c. as the Turkey Com- "pany are ſubject to for raw ſilk from Perſia:" until the wars and deſolations rendered that trade impracticable; as it remains to the preſent time. And it was ſaid to be a profitable branch of buſineſs to the Ruſſia merchants.

Whereas, at this time, certain projects and ſchemes were publiſhed in the Britiſh continental colonies of America, For ſupplying a Want or pretended Want of a Medium in Trade, by ſetting up a Bank on Land Security: the ſtock of which bank, to be raiſed by public ſubſcriptions for large ſums of money, whereof ſmall ſums were from time to time to be paid in by the particular ſubſcribers, and to be managed by directors, treaſurers, and other officers; and dividends were to be made, as therein mentioned: and the ſaid company of ſubſcribers were to promiſe to receive the bills which they ſhould iſſue as ſo much lawful money in all payments, trade, and buſineſs; and, after the expiration of twenty years, to pay the poſſeſſors the value thereof in manufactures. And as ſeveral other ſchemes, ſocieties, partnerſhips, or companies, have been propoſed, and may be ſet on foot in America, contrary to the true intent and meaning of a ſtatute of the ſixth of King George the Firſt, cap. xvii. For better ſecuring certain Powers and Privileges intended to be granted by his Majeſty's two Charters, for Aſſurance of Ships and Merchandize at Sea, &c. And for reſtraining ſeveral extravagant and unwarrantable Practices therein mentioned and deſcribed; and for preventing the like for the future. Whereby, "the preſuming to act as a corporate body,—or to make "transfers or aſſignments of ſhares, without legal authority,—or the pretending to act under "any charter, formerly granted from the crown, for any particular or ſpecial purpoſes there- "in expreſſed, by perſons endeavouring to make uſe of ſuch charter for any ſuch other pur- "poſe not thereby intended, and all acting under any ſuch obſolete charter herein deſcribed, "ſhould be deemed to be public nuiſances, and to be triable accordingly—as per the ſtatute "of the ſixteenth year of King Richard II. And whereas doubts have ariſen, whether that "act does extend to his Majeſty's dominions in America;" it was now enacted, fourteenth of George II. For reſtraining and preventing ſeveral unwarrantable Schemes and Undertakings in his Majeſty's Colonies and Plantations in America, "That the ſaid act of the ſixth "of King George the Firſt, and every part thereof, ſhall extend to Britiſh America, and the "contraveners ſhall be liable to the like fines, puniſhments, &c. to be tried in the King's "courts in America." This was a prudently intended law; for, as the ſaid colonies grow greater and more populous, projects and ſchemes might get into their heads, which would prove very detrimental to the induſtry and parſimony neceſſary to ſuch colonies.

The

A. D. 1741 The welfare and profperity of Great Britain depending much on the giving all due encouragement to mariners to enter voluntarily into the King's fhips; an act of this fame fourteenth of King George II. cap. xxxviii. was made, For the Encouragement and Increafe of Seamen, and for the better and fpeedier Manning his Majefty's Fleet. "Whereby a bounty of five "pounds over and above his wages, was granted to every able feaman, and three pounds to "every ordinary feamen; and the widows of fuch as fhall be killed in the King's fervice fhall "receive one year's pay, as a bounty. And this act fhall extend to Ireland. And whereas "failors, taking advantage of the prefent war with Spain, have infifted on very extravagant "wages,—it was hereby enacted, that, for one year to come,—no feamen in the merchants "fervice fhall be paid more than thitty-five fhillings per month."

The remote weft and north-weft parts of the coafts of Great Britain and Ireland, and the ifles thereunto belonging, not being thought as yet to be in all refpects accurately laid down in the fea charts, a ftatute paffed in this fourteenth year of King George II. cap. xxxix: For furveying the chief Ports and Headlands on the Coafts of Great Britain and Ireland, and the Iflands and Plantations thereto belonging, in order to the more exact Determination of the Longitude and Latitude thereof. Which act reciting the ftatute of the twelfth of Queen Anne, For providing a public Reward for fuch Perfons as fhall difcover the Longitude at Sea; which directs the commiffioners of the navy to fet apart two thoufand pounds for making experiments towards finding out the faid longitude; "the commiffioners for difcovering the longitude are "hereby empowered to apply fuch part of the faid two thoufand pounds as has not already "been laid out in experiments, for the making fuch furvey, and determining the longitude "and latitude of the faid chief ports and headlands." It is even ftill to be apprehended, that fome parts on the Britifh fhores, and more efpecially thofe of the weftern and north-weftern ifles of England, and on the weft fide of Ireland, require a more accurate furvey; but more than the whole fum herein-named would be required to execute that neceffary point to effectual purpofe.

Married in the year 1741, at Amfterdam, two thoufand fix hundred and fixty-fix couple of perfons; buried, in this year 1741, at Amfterdam, nine thoufand eight hundred and fixty-four perfons.

Arrived this year at Amfterdam one thoufand eight hundred and thirteen fhips; as by the Dutch newfpapers, viz.

		Ships.
Whereof there came from	Sweden — — —	25
	Ruffia, and other parts of the Baltic Sea	405
	Greenland and Davis's Streights —	150
	France — —	336
	Spain — — —	111
	Portugal — — —	80
	Italy — —	23
	The Levant — — —	10
	Barbary — — —	5
	The Eaft Indies — —	15
	The Weft Indies — —	[illegible]
		1,259

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1741 As England, Scotland, Ireland, and Flanders are not herein named, the rest must have come from thence, as being near neighbours, and may very well be supposed to have amounted to five hundred and fifty-four ships or vessels of all kinds. It is unnecessary here to remark, how vast a commerce must be carried on by this mighty city, and consequently what immense riches must be possessed by the inhabitants of it.

After twenty years silence concerning the formerly so much talked of, and wished for, and so often fruitlessly attempted north west passage to China, Japan, and India; an ingenious and well-informed gentleman of Ireland, Arthur Dobbs, Esquire, since governor of North Carolina, earnestly applied to the Admiralty Board for a new attempt to be made for finding that supposed passage, at the government's expence; urging the great probability of it, by many very plausible arguments. The King and his Ministers being unwilling to discourage a proposal, which, if successful, must probably be attended with great advantages to the nation, gave directions to the Admiralty Board (where Sir Charles Wager, an experienced navigator, at this time presided) to send out two of the King's ships on that discovery, under the direction of Captain Christopher Middleton, who had been twenty years a commander in the Hudson's Bay Company's service.

His instructions from the Board of Admiralty, on a supposition of finding a passage, were in substance as follows:

"In places where you meet with inhabitants, make purchases with their consent, and take "possession of convenient situations in the country, in the name of his Majesty of Great "Britain: but where there are no inhabitants, you must take possession, by setting up proper "inscriptions, as first discoverers and possessors. If, in your passage, you meet with any "ships trading to the western countries, eastward of Japan, or any Japanese ships, and you "apprehend any danger from them, either from their force or number, you are to proceed no "further on the discovery, but immediately to return; that ships of sufficient force may be "sent out next season, to begin a trade or make a settlement, without any apprehension of "disturbance from any powerful nations on that side, lest any accident should prevent your "return, and discourage any further attempts to be made for the future. If you should arrive "at California, without any apprehension of danger, and chuse to winter in forty-two de"grees, (where Caxton is said to have found a civilized nation, and a good harbour) or else "more southerly; then endeavour to meet Captain Anson, in the month of December, be"fore the arrival of the Manilla," or Acapulco, "ship at Cape St. Lucas, the southern cape "of California; and leave a copy of your journal with him, lest any accident should happen "to you upon your return, and so the discovery be lost, and that it might prevent ships being "sent out to your relief in case of shipwreck.

"Given under our hands, the twentieth of May 1741.

"CHARLES WAGER,
"THOMAS FRANKLAND,
"GLENORCHY."

These instructions are printed in Captain Middleton's defence of his own conduct, published in the year 1743.

He sailed, in 1741, on the discovery, and wintered in the vast bay of Hudson, at one of the company's forts at Churchill River; and in the summer of 1742, he sailed again as far north as sixty-six and a half degrees, and searched into an inlet or river, westward, which he named Wager River, &c. and being now fully confirmed, that no such passage was to be found, he returned home, that same year, with the King's ships.

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1741. This produced a great deal of altercation, in print, between him and Mr. Dobbs, who was so eagerly bent on that discovery: Capt. Middleton insisting on the above inlet's being merely a river above-named: Mr. Dobbs insisted it was the passage wished for; though he never was in those seas: a circumstance which gave the captain a great advantage over him. Mr. Dobbs accused the latter of favouring the Hudson's Bay Company, who, as he alleged, had no sort of inclination to forward this discovery, as believing it would be the means of laying open their trade, as they certainly have no legal exclusive right by act of Parliament, but merely by King Charles the Second's charter.

Mr. Dobbs also alleged, that this Company sell their goods to the savages in that Bay at two thousand per cent. profit: he is therefore for dissolving the Company, and for laying the trade open to all the King's subjects.—He accuses him, whom, however, he admits to be a capable person, as well as the company, of knowing and concealing the passage.—That there are many marks of such a passage; as, particularly, the saltness of the water, the strength of tides and currents up Wager Streight, (alias river) and the finding black whales therein, and in the opening called the Welcome, near it.—Yet Captain Middleton endeavours to account for this, by supposing some under-ground passage for the sea out of Baffin's Bay, or Davis's Streight, &c. And here we must leave this dark subject for the present.

1742. The old or original capital of the Bank of England, of one million six hundred thousand pounds, being at an interest of six per cent. till the first of August 1743, when also that company's exclusive privileges expire; and the natural interest of money being at this time very low; the government, availing itself thereof, made this year a contract with the Bank, and had it confirmed by an act of Parliament of this fifteenth of King George the Second, cap. xiii. For establishing an Agreement with the Governor and Company of the Bank of England, for advancing the Sum of One Million Six Hundred Thousand Pounds, towards the Supply for the Service of the Year 1742—"That the Bank should advance the said one million six hun-"dred thousand pounds more without any additional interest whatever; i. e. by agreeing that "both sums, amounting to three million two hundred thousand pounds, should bear an interest "of only three per cent. In consideration of which service to the public, the Bank, by this "statute, had their privileges of exclusive banking, (of any partnership beyond six persons) till "one year's notice, and repayment of the principal and arrears, after the first of August 1764." By this act, "persons forging, counterfeiting, or altering of any bank note, bill of exchange, "dividend warrant, or any bond or obligation under that company's seal, or any indorsement "thereon, or knowingly utter the same, shall suffer death without benefit of clergy.—More-"over, the company's servants breaking their trust to the company shall suffer death as a fe-"lon, without benefit of clergy."—It was also enacted, "that when, at a Court of Directors "of the Bank, neither the governor nor deputy-governor shall attend in two hours after the "time appointed for business, then any thirteen or more of the directors may chuse a chairman "for the time, for the dispatch of business; which court shall be as valid as if either the go-"vernor or deputy-governor had duly attended.—Hereby the Bank was authorised to take in "subscriptions for advancing the said one million six hundred thousand pounds."

In this same year 1742, the British Parliament taking it into their consideration, that the linen manufactures of Great Britain and Ireland were of late years greatly improved; so that the prices as well of foreign as of home fabric were considerably reduced, did, for extending of those advantages as much as possible, by an act of Parliament of the fifteenth and sixteenth of King George II. cap. xxix. For granting to his Majesty an additional Duty on foreign Cam-"bricks

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1742 bricks imported into Great Britain; and for allowing thereout a Bounty upon certain Species of British and Irish Linen exported—" lay an additional duty on foreign cambricks imported, " of one shilling and five pence for every half piece, and two shillings and ten pence for " every whole piece. Out of which additional duty there shall be allowed a bounty of one " penny for every yard of British and Irish linen, worth from six pence to twelve pence per " yard in value, and one halfpenny per yard for linen under the value of six pence per yard, " exported."

It has, for very many years past, been judged of the last consequence, that the trade and navigation to and from the British American plantations, should be entirely confined and secured solely to British, Irish, and American subjects, for which end it was, by a statute of the seventh and eighth of King William III. and the fifth of Queen Anne, and now confirmed by an act of Parliament of the fifteenth and sixteenth of King George II. cap. xxxi. For further regulating the Plantation Trade, &c. enacted, " That all ships trading from Britain " and Ireland, and also all ships of our American plantations, should be registered, as British, " Irish, or plantation built, or else prize ships made free, and a certificate of such register was " to be always ready in the master's hands: many frauds had nevertheless been discovered in " this respect, certificates of such registers having been frequently sold to foreigners, whose " ships, under colour thereof, have been admitted to trade to and from the British plan-" tations, contrary to those former laws. For prevention whereof, the last above-named " statute obliged the master of every ship, arriving in America, to take an oath of all the " qualifications necessary for ascertaining of such ship to be a qualified one for trading thi-" ther, and to be absolutely and solely the property of his Majesty's British, Irish, or Ameri-" can subjects."

In this year 1742, some Russian adventurers from Tartary, for the discovery of America, having now, as well as in some former years, discovered the coasts of America, of which they actually had sight, and particularly of California, had it seems sailed twelve and a half degrees north of that country, where no voyager had been before. " From those discoveries of " the Russians, it may be concluded," says Dr. Busching, in the first volume of his very valuable Geography of Europe, p. 524, English translation, " that Asia and America, about " the sixty-sixth degree of north latitude, are separated from each other only by a very narrow " channel."

	Children.
At the city of Dublin, in this year 1742, there were christened -	1,357
	Persons.
buried	2,320
Which last number multiplied by - - - -	33
Gives the probable number of souls in Dublin to be - -	76,560

Provided the numerous Papists of that city, and all the Protestant Dissenters, do duly register their burials, which at least is doubtful.

At Amsterdam there arrived, in the year 1742, one thousand five hundred and ninety-one ships.

 Although

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1743 Although the controversy from the press, between Mr. Dobbs and Captain Middleton, concerning the passage through Hudson's Bay westward to China, &c. and the nature of the Hudson's Bay Company's trade with the savages of that Bay, be too prolix to be totally transcribed into this work; yet there were many branches of it thereby brought to light, which are well worth recording in this work.

The Captain, in his farther Vindication, printed in the year 1743, observes, "That until "a little above twenty years before, the voyage to Hudson's Bay was seldom made without "wintering there." Which shews, that the company has thereby made a considerable improvement therein, and a considerable saving must needs be made by not wintering at their forts on so inhospitable a shore.

Mr. Dobbs has taken the pains to give the public the entire sale of all that company's returns, in the year 1743, viz.

Skins.	£.	s.	d.
26,750 beaver skins, sold for	9,780	4	0
12,370 martins	4,242	7	0
2,360 damaged ditto	442	10	0
590 otters	413	0	0
850 cats	765	0	0
260 ditto, damaged	52	0	0
320 foxes	200	0	0
600 wolverins	205	0	0
170 ditto, damaged	27	12	0
320 black bears	368	0	0
1,580 wolves	1,580	0	0
270 ditto, damaged, and stags	123	15	0
40 woodshoek	22	6	0
10 mink	1	10	0
5 raccoon	0	16	0
120 squirrel	2	0	0
46,615 skins of all sorts, sold for	£. 18,226	0	

He adds the following articles, but without their prices, viz.

Elk skins	130
Deer skins	440
Bed Feathers	3,170 pounds
Ditto, in a tick	220 ditto
Castorum	140 ditto
Whale-fins	470
Whale-oil	23 casks
Wesaguipaka	8 pounds

And

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			£.	s.	d.
And in their March sale, 40,125 beaver, worth	—	—	14,670	0	0
Undervalued goods, about	— —	—	400	0	0
Total amount of their sales in the year 1743		£.	33,296	0	0

Upon this state of this little company's sales we may observe, that if their capital stock be but about one hundred thousand pounds, and that thereon they had not for many years divided more than ten per cent. on that capital annually, and if this year's sale be any rule to determine for other years, it will follow, that the company's annual expence for shipping, forts, garrisons, salaries, and home expence, may be about twenty thousand pounds. So that although Mr. Dobbs has spared no pains to be master of this subject, yet after all, considering the risques the company constantly runs, their gains are little to be envied.

Captain Middleton tells us, that the company has in all one hundred and twenty persons, officers, soldiers, and servants, in their four forts in Hudson's Bay, which forts are absolutely requisite for their people's preparing cargoes during winter, for the ensuing summer, against the arrival of their ships, as well as to protect their people from the attempts of the savages, and of wild beasts. So that, if the company should be dissolved, as Mr. Dobbs proposes, and the trade laid open, those forts must be kept up by a rate or tax on the private traders, and, undoubtedly, the company must, in such a case, have a compensation for them: and as the company, through the means of these forts, by their long experience of the trade, and by some sort of correspondence with the savages, has raised and carried on a very beneficial commerce to the nation for many years, they might probably, and perhaps reasonably hope, for a further compensation on that account likewise. All things therefore being duly weighed, it may seem doubtful, whether it would be more eligible to dissolve the company, in expectation, as Mr. Dobbs believes, of extending the trade much further when laid open, or to suffer this branch of our commerce to go on in its present channel, unless the so much desired passage westward to the Asiatic world could be found practicable, in which case, indeed, there may be found good reasons for the taking those forts into national management, and for erecting others in or near that supposed passage: concerning which passage, not only Mr. Dobbs, but even Captain Middleton, and others also, later than him, have described very plausible appearances of a passage westward to, or communication with, the Sea of Japan. Yet, on the other hand, even supposing that communication to be certain, it may happen to be impracticable for shipping, either through its frozen situation, like Weygatz Streights, or from its being blocked up by rocks and small islands; or, lastly, it may be found too hazardous and impracticable to guard and keep the said passage entirely to ourselves alone, for reasons sufficiently obvious.

Should our nation be the discoverers of such a practicable passage westward, it would, undoubtedly, open several new commercial scenes and opportunities, and would give us great advantages over other nations, not only in shortening the voyage to Japan and China, and even to India, properly so called, and to the adjacent isles, but likewise in opening a commerce to us with the whole west side of North America, without rivals, where mines of the richer metals are known to abound, near and at New Mexico, California, &c. More fine-spun speculations of this kind would rather amuse than inform, and therefore we shall leave them, and return to more practicable matter.

Mr.

A. D.

1743 Mr. Dobbs has given us a catalogue of British manufactures, &c. which the Hudson's Bay Company exchange with the savages in that Bay: it seems that one beaver's skin is in that country the standard medium of the whole trade. For instance,

For every pound weight of brass kettles	—	one beaver.
For one pound and a half of gunpowder	—	one ditto.
For five pounds of lead shot	— —	one ditto.
For six pounds of Brasil tobacco	— —	one ditto.
For one yard of bays	— —	one ditto.
For two combs	— — —	one ditto.
For two yards of gartering	— —	one ditto.
For one pair of breeches	— — —	one ditto.
For one pistol	— — —	one ditto.
For two hatchets	— — —	one ditto, &c.

The other skins and goods of the savages are, in all probability, valued also by this standard of a beaver skin, although he has not shewn the proportions thereof.

Other goods usually carried thither are, glass beads, black lead, sugar, thread, vermillion, brandy, broad cloth, blankets, duffles, flannel, awl blades, buttons, fish hooks, fire steels, files, guns, flints, yarn, mittins, handkerchiefs, hats, hawks bells, knives, ice chissels, looking glasses, needles, net lines, rings for the fingers, runlets, sword blades, spoons, shirts, shoes, stockings, sashes, worsted, thimbles, tobacco boxes, tongs, trunks, twine, &c. Which shews, in some measure, that Mr. Dobbs's opinion may be right, that the enlarging of this trade, by extending it farther into the vast inland countries, southward and south-east from the bay, might prove a national advantage. Yet whether those countries be so fertile and so well inhabited, as he alleges, is at least doubtful, until we can gain more certain intelligence thereof.

	£.	s.	d.
There was exported by the Hudson's Bay Company, in value, in 1737	4,124	18	2
———————————————— in 1738	3,879	17	11

Thus this dispute between Mr. Dobbs and Captain Middleton has brought to light more particulars for illustrating this trade, than either the company would, probably, have readily done, or the public could have otherwise expected.

Mr. Dobbs has moreover given us also a catalogue of the peltry imported from Canada, or New France, into the port of Rochelle, for the year 1743, viz,

		Skins.
Beaver	— — —	127,080
Bear	— — —	16,512
Raccoon	— — —	110,000
Martin	— — —	30,325
Otter and Fisher	— — —	12,428
Mink	— — — —	1,700
	Carried forward	298,045

Brought

2

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Brought over	289,045 skins.
Cat, fine	1,220
Wolf	1,267
Wolverin	92
Grey fox and cat	10,280
Red fox	451
Total	311,355

In all, worth about one hundred and twenty thousand pounds sterling, according to the before-named valuation of the Hudson's Bay peltry. But whether our being now in possession of Canada may not lower the value of those furs and peltry, we must leave to further experience.

Both Mr. Dobbs and Captain Middleton admit, that there is a good copper mine on the west side of Hudson's Bay, not far from the coast, which might, probably, be brought to good account, were a fort built near it. It is on that west side where the company's chief forts and trade are less in danger of being annoyed by the French forts, (north of Canada, and which were much too near ours on the south side of Hudson's Bay) such as our best and strongest fort, named the Prince of Wales's Fort, from whence, in the year 1742, the company got twenty thousand beavers skins,—that on Churchill River;—another, named York Fort, on Nelson's River, (anciently called on our maps, Port Nelson;)—another on New Severn River;—one on Albany River;—and one on Moose River, at the very southern bottom of the Bay; where they keep themselves close both summer and winter for the most part, having no country plantations, and with only a kitchen garden, under the walls of their forts, wherein they raise a few herbs and greens. Whereas, says Mr. Dobbs, would the company settle and build forts higher up from the sea, on the west and south sides of the Bay, where the frosts and cold are not near so intense, and where they will find a rich country, well wooded, with all manner of plants, herbs, &c. with plenty of grass, rivers and lakes; or rather, were the trade laid open, and those fine inland countries upon Rupert's, Moose, Albany, and Nelson Rivers, settled by our people, we might regain the whole trade from the French, and supply the natives with woollen and iron wares, &c. which, he says, the company do not do; but, instead thereof, by their exorbitant rates, do enable the French from Canada to undersell them. He adds, with respect to this company, that eight or nine private merchants do ingross nine-tenth parts of the company's capital stock, whereby they are perpetual directors. Mr. Dobbs, for the greater corroboration of his opinion of the probability of a passage out of Hudson's Bay into the South Seas, gives us an abstract of De Fonté, the Vice Admiral of Peru's, voyage from Lima northward, on the west side of North America, as far as the Tartarian seas in seventy-seven degrees of north latitude, in the year 1640, by order of the King of Spain, who had advice of fresh attempts, in the year 1639, for a north west passage by certain navigators from New England; and that the said Spanish Admiral had found in those seas a ship from Boston in New England, commanded by one Captain Shaply, who was told by that admiral, that his instructions were to make prize of any people seeking a north west passage into the South Sea; but, that, nevertheless, he would look upon them as merchants trading with the natives for beavers, &c. and so dismissed him generously. Which account Mr. Dobbs thinks has all the appearance of being authentic, although it is plain, there are

several

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1743 ſeveral very improbable circumſtances therein; particularly that admiral's aſſerting, at the concluſion of his journal, that he found there was no paſſage into that ſea by what is called the north weſt paſſage, after he had related his finding the New England ſhip in the ſaid Tartarian Sea; which circumſtance, however, Mr. Dobbs has laboured to clear up. He thinks, that Boſton ſhip might have paſſed into the Tartarian Sea through ſome of the openings near Whale Cove, in trading for furs, and might have been afterward loſt, or elſe ſurprized by the Eſquimaux ſavages, upon her return home, ſeeing no account of this voyage was ever tranſmitted from Boſton: and that upon Sir Charles Wager's making inquiry, whether any of the name of Shaply had lived at that time in Boſton, it appeared from certain writings, that ſome of that name had then lived at Boſton; which, ſays Mr. Dobbs, adds to the weight of De Fonté's account, and confirms its being an authentic journal.

The following extracts from a well written octavo pamphlet, entitled, An Account of the Numbers of Men able to bear Arms in France, taken by the French King's Order, in the Year 1743, alſo of his Revenues and Expence, in 1741, 1742, and 1743; printed at London in the year 1744, about a month before our declaring war againſt France; may be hereafter uſeful in ſeveral reſpects, viz.

I. In the laſt years of King Louis XIII. in the year 1642, Cardinal Richlieu raiſed in revenue the ſum of one hundred and twenty-four millions four hundred and twenty-nine thouſand livres. But the preſent crown of ſix livres conſiſted then of only three livres.

	Livres.
II. The Comptroller General Deſmaret's Memoirs of the Finances of France, at the death of Louis XIV. at a medium of ſeven preceding years, was, per annum, — — — —	219,028,000
III. In the year 1734, there was raiſed — —	254,968,000
IV. In the year 1740, there was raiſed — —	204,881,000
V. In the year 1741, there was raiſed — —	243,503,000
France's expences exceeding this ſum by twenty millions.	
VI. In the year 1742, there was raiſed (partly to diſcharge the ſaid twenty millions and other debts.) — — — —	305,924,000
VII. In the year 1743, there was raiſed — —	232,000,000
	1,460,304,000

Medium of ſix years is two hundred and forty-three millions three hundred and eighty-four thouſand livres, or near eleven millions ſterling.

The judicious reader needs not to be informed, that the revenue of arbitrary governments is but another word for all that they thought fit to raiſe in ſuch reſpective times on their people.

I. Land forces of France, in May 1743, viz.

Regular troops, horſe and dragoons — — —	37,164
Foot — — — —	182,600
Total regular forces	219,764
Militia	75,000
Invalids	9,296
Total land forces	304,060

II. And

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1743 II. And France's seamen of all sorts, viz. Men.
Mariners, bombardiers, and marines, were, in this same year 1743, 42,440

The suburbs of London still increasing on every side, and particularly on the side of the hamlet of Bethnal Green, which at this time was increased to about one thousand eight hundred houses, and computed to have more than fifteen thousand inhabitants, which is above eight persons to each house, by reason they are mostly manufacturers, and the meaner sort of working people, many lodgers or inmates often crowding into one house; an act of Parliament was passed in this sixteenth year of King George II. cap. xxviii. To make that Hamlet a separate and distinct Parish from that of St. Dunstan's, Stepney; and for erecting a Parish Church therein. Since known by the name of St. Matthew, Bethnal Green.

Buried, during the year 1743, at Dublin,	2,193	persons.	Multiplied by 30 is	65,790
Christened,	1,517		by 33 is more	6,579
By this rule the persons in Dublin were			—	72,369

We are obliged to wish, we could depend on those bills of mortality.

The English East India Company being disposed to have an enlargement for fourteen years longer of their present exclusive trade and privileges, they, in consideration thereof, agreed to advance one million of money for the public exigency, for the year 1744, at three per cent. interest. Which was accordingly confirmed by an act of Parliament of the seventeenth of King George II. cap. xvii. For granting to his Majesty the Surplus or Remainder of the Monies arisen or to arise by the Duties on Spirituous Liquors, granted, &c. to commence from Michaelmas 1744. The said company being for this end, hereby enabled to borrow money on their common seal, by creating a million of new bonds, at three per cent. interest. So that the entire debt thenceforth due by the public to this company was four millions two hundred thousand pounds hereby declared to be redeemable, upon one year's notice after Lady-day 1745, by payments of not less than five hundred thousand pounds at any one time. Yet, notwithstanding such redemption, this company shall continue to enjoy their exclusive commerce to the East Indies, not only for the term granted by former laws, but, in consideration of this loan to the public, they shall have an addition of fourteen years to their present exclusive term, which will therefore hereby extend to three years notice to be given by Parliament after Lady-day 1780: and at the expiration of the said three years, and re-payment of the above four millions two hundred thousand pounds and all arrears of interest, then their title to an exclusive trade shall cease and determine. Yet, after the said determination, the company shall continue to have a common right with other subjects in and to the trade to India.

Thus the present condition of the East India Company is as follows, viz.

Due to them in their corporate capacity three millions two hundred thousand pounds, at four per cent. being one hundred and twenty-eight thousand pounds per annum. And one million of pounds at three per cent. being thirty thousand pounds per annum.

1744 In our war with Spain we happened, about two years and an half before this time, to seize on and conquer the isle of Rattan, in the West Indian Seas, near the Bay of Honduras, belonging to that kingdom; and, in this year 1744, the British Parliament made an estimate and provision for the expence of a garrison, fortifications, stores, &c. for it: it being then

 thought

1744 thought extremely well situated for a trade between Jamaica and the Spanish Main. Yet, soon after, on a general peace, it was again relinquished to Spain.

In certain extracts from a French treatise, Of Maritime affairs, or a Comparison between the Commerce and Naval Power of England and France, with a View to some Paradoxes, by Monsieur Deslandes; addressed to the Earl of Winchelsea, by Mr. Horsley; we have the following memoirs.

"The annual revenues of France, ordinary and extraordinary, by the account of their "own financiers, including Lorraine, do not amount to clear six millions sterling; which "is not equal to the natural revenue of England alone. They have out of this,

	£.
"I. To pay the interest of seventy-five millions sterling, remaining debt," one hundred millions more being cancelled by Louis XIV. and the Duke of Orleans, Regent, "which, at six per cent. is — —	4,500,000
"II. The King's houshold, and pensions to the princes of the blood, &c.	1,000,000
"III. To the pay of two hundred thousand land forces, at one shilling per "day, including officers, &c. — — — —	3,650,000
"IV. Garrisons, stores, &c. — — —	1,500,000
"V. For the registered militia — — —	500,000
"VI. To forty thousand seamen, &c. — — —	1,500,000
"VII. Intendants, port charges, building and repairs of ships, &c. —	200,000
"VIII. Ambassadors, subsidies to foreign princes, spies, &c. —	2,000,000
"Total annual expence —	14,850,000
"France's clear revenue," according to this author, —	6,000,000
"Annual debt created by France — — —	8,850,000

On the other hand, the before-named author presents us with the annual expences of Great Britain, viz.

	£.
"I. The interest of our," then, "public debts — —	2,000,000
"II. Forty thousand seamen, including stores, &c. — —	2,080,000
"III. Forty thousand land forces, and contingencies — —	1,200,000
"IV. Ordinary of the navy — — —	1,200,000
"V. Guards and garrisons — — —	500,000
"VI. Subsidies and extra charges — — —	600,000
"VII. Civil list — — — —	800,000
"Total annual expence of Great Britain	7,300,000

The French having, as already related, considerably gained upon England in their trade to the ports in the Levant Seas, not merely by the greater nearness of the voyage thither from Marseilles than from the port of London, but likewise by their judiciously studying the manufacturing of such kinds of slight, though fine-looking, woollen cloths as may best suit their climate, which they can afford to sell at a cheaper rate than that of our more substantial and really finer drapery, beside their supplying the Turks also cheaper than we can with great quantities

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1744 quantities of sugar, indigo, &c. It was at this time much canvassed without doors, in conversation, pamphlets, and newspapers, whether the shortest way for England's regaining the ascendant in that very important branch of commerce, would not be to lay the Turkey trade entirely open to all British subjects. This went so far with many, that a bill was brought into Parliament, For enlarging and regulating the Trade to the Levant Seas; hoping, that by the number of traders, in an open trade, they should be enabled to undersell the French, and recover the ground which they had gradually lost. But our Turkey or Levant Company being heard at the bar of the House, gave thereby, and by their printed case, such convincing reasons against the bill, that it was at length dropped. The company readily admitted that their trade was much decayed; but they alleged in substance the following genuine grounds of and for that declension, viz.

" That during the most flourishing periods of their trade, it was principally carried on with " a coarse kind of cloth, made entirely of English wool, in which no other nation could vie " with them. But the French, after the treaty of Pyrenees, enjoying a long course of prof- " perity, turned their views very much to foreign commerce, and particularly to that of the " Levant, which the great Colbert pushed forward at a vast public expence; until, at length, " the cloth manufacture of Languedoc, made of two-thirds Spanish wocl and one-third of the " wool of that province, could be afforded at so low a price in Turkey as the English could " afford to sell a coarser cloath, made all of their own wool, not worth above nine pence " per pound weight. That this superiority of the material, and also that of the finer spin- " ning, made a more showy cloth, which, though slighter, found its vent in a warmer " climate.

" That, moreover, the French make cloths of all Spanish wool for the Turkey markets, " which they sell cheaper than ours, although ours be more substantial. And although there " are English cloths made of a mixture of English and Spanish wool, yet the French cloth of " that sort happens to be much cheaper. That the French, by this acquired advantage of " Spanish wool, have got the better of the before-named natural one which we long enjoyed; " and that our clothiers are not able to make such a cloth to suit the Turks, so cheap as the " French can and do afford theirs before-mentioned. That, moreover, the French have in- " creased their trade to Turkey by carrying thither indigo and coffee in great quantities, " which we have not, as also sugar, which they sell much cheaper than we can do.

" The wars of the great Peter, Czar of Russia, against Persia, having obstructed the bringing " of Sherbaff silk from the province of Ghilaun, through Turkey, the English, before that " period, usually bought at Aleppo and Smyrna at least one thousand bales, one year with " another, worth about one hundred pounds each bale, and chiefly in barter against our cloth; " a great part whereof the silk merchants carried back into Persia, so that little or no silk " comes now that way; and indeed it is now permitted to be brought through Russia, as is " rhubarb (once a good article of return, but now become a monopoly in the hands " of that court). And that, although that province has been restored to Persia, yet the " wars which have since been in those provinces, have so interrupted the commerce, that it is " now much diverted into the other before-named channel through Russia That there is a " decrease of one half, at least, in the consumption of sundry drugs, as well as in galls, goat's- " wool, and mohair-yarn, occasioned by the change of fashions. That the great increase of " Italian and Spanish raw-silk also lessens the vent for Turkey raw-silk; although those silks

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1744 "are bought with ready money, whereas the Turkish raw-silk is taken in return for the "British manufactures sold there.

"That the company, confiding in the royal charters and privileges, have constantly carried "on a very considerable commerce to Turkey, whither they annually export large quantities "of woollen and other manufactures, &c. and bring back great quantities of raw silk, mo- "hair-yarn, &c. for the use of our home manufactures: and are at very great expence in sup- "porting the charge of an ambassador at Constantinople, and of consuls in other parts of "Turkey; as also in obtaining and renewing the needful capitulations with the Ottoman Port, "and also in making considerable settlements at Constantinople, Aleppo, Smyrna, &c. And "that they apprehend this bill will deprive them of those privileges so dearly purchased, if it "does not likewise occasion the total loss of the trade."

It seems the jews were very active in promoting this bill, which afforded the company and their friends within doors an occasion to explain to the Parliament and people how probable it was, that they would (by being admitted, as was by many intended, into this trade when laid open) engross the entire Levant trade, in conjunction with their own people in Turkey, who are the agents for the great men there, and the general brokers for merchants; and who, by combination amongst themselves, govern, in a great degree, the sale of merchandize. For which, and other reasons before named, it was judged fit to drop this bill.

This brief account will let gentlemen and others, who were before ignorant of the nature of this trade, in a great measure into at least a general idea of it, which indeed is as much as persons unacquainted with the practice of that particular branch of commerce can reasonably desire to know.

We shall close this year 1744, with a summary view of the then state of the stock and funds of the Bank of England, viz.

	£.
I. The original capital doubled, and reduced to three per cent. interest, is	3,200,000
II. For cancelling of Exchequer Bills, 3tio Geo. Primi. at four per cent.	500,000
III. Purchased, in the year 1722, of the South Sea Company, at four per cent.	4,000,000
IV. Annuities charged on the surplus of the funds of Lottery 1714, at four per cent.	1,250,000
V. Annuities at four per cent. charged on the duty on coals since Lady Day 1710,	1,750,000
Total Bank capital — — —	10,700,000

Beside the several three per cent. lottery annuities, transferable at the Bank, *i. e.* of the year 1731, being eight hundred thousand pounds,—of the year 1742, being also eight hundred thousand pounds,—of the year 1743, being one million eight hundred thousand pounds,—and the like sum of the year 1744, or one million eight hundred thousand pounds. All which four last named sums are quite separate and distinct from what is known by the name of the capital stock of the Bank aforesaid, the said four sums being entitled to their respective annuities alone, without any other profit whatever, whereas the said capital stock of ten millions seven hundred thousand pounds was entitled to all the benefits of that company's banking, in the largest sense of that word.

We are here, however, to observe, that although the same principal sum of ten millions seven hundred thousand pounds was actually due from the public to the Bank, yet the transferable capital in the Bank books, as divided amongst all their proprietors, was really but nine millions

A. D. 1744 millions eight hundred thousand pounds Bank-stock; there being the sum of nine hundred thousand pounds undivided capital remaining in that company's corporate capacity: by the interest whereof, and their profits by banking, *i. e.* by all the advantages the Bank can make, either by circulating of the government's Exchequer-bills, and by other dealings with the public—by what they make by discounting of merchants bills of exchange—by dealing in foreign bullion—and, lastly, by their employing of so much of the cash of their circulating notes as is not judged absolutely requisite to remain in bank, for answering all the demands of those notes) that prudent and most useful corporation was enabled to make at this time an annual dividend of five and a half per cent. on their said transferable capital of nine millions eight hundred thousand pounds.

	£.
Now the annual interest paid to them from the public on three millions two hundred thousand pounds at four per cent. is — —	96,000
And on seven million five hundred thousand pounds at four per cent. is	300,000
Total of the Bank's interest from the public — —	396,000
But, as the Bank of England has for several years past divided five and a half per cent. yearly to the proprietors of the said nine millions eight hundred thousand pounds, being — — —	539,000
By deducting the said yearly interest received from the public, being —	396,000
There remains the annual profits of the said nine hundred thousand pounds their undivided capital, and all their other various profits by banking, as aforesaid, amounting together to per annum — — —	143,000
Now, if the interest paid by the government for the nine hundred thousand pounds undivided capital, at four per cent. be deducted, being —	36,000
Then the clear annual profits of the Bank, by their money concerns with the public, and by all their other certainly known banking concerns, will be	107,000
Deduct thereout, suppose, for house-expence of all kinds, as salaries, &c.	17,000
And there will remain then of the known annual profit by mere banking.	90,000

Lastly, Some might possibly indeed be so very inquisitive as to form conjectures, (for they can be no other) concerning the proportion which the quantum of ready cash always necessary to be reserved in this or any other public or private bank, for the circulation of all their cash-notes and credit of accounts in a bank bears, or should bear to the total amount of those cash-notes and credit; and which is the ultimate article in all banking business, and probably also the most considerable one, more especially with respect to our London private bankers, though at the same time an extremely casual and uncertain one: nevertheless, as this last-mentioned point may be properly termed the fair and reasonable mystery or secret of all banking, we can see no benefit which can arise by any such minute enquiries, to the generality of men; neither do we apprehend them proper to be enquired into at all, without there should arise any reasonable suspicion for fraud. For, as it has been a political observation of long standing, That even the reputation of great and powerful monarchies and states often subsists more by common

1744 mon fame or opinion than by real ſtrength or ability, *Magis Fama quam Vi.* So it may more ſtrictly and properly be applicable to a bank and bankers; of which we had a moſt pregnant inſtance a few years ago, at the breaking up and dividing the profits of an eminent partnerſhip of a private bank in the city of London, which for many years had cleared or divided ſeveral thouſand pounds yearly for the partnerſhip, when, upon valuing or appraiſing all the real ſtock of the partnerſhip before the higheſt judge of Great Britain, it appeared even to that great man's amazement, that the whole did not amount to above three or four hundred pounds, conſiſting entirely of ſhop implements, and certain houſhold furniture, &c.

Perhaps this obſervation may, in ſome reſpects, be extended to moſt of the great commercial as well as banking ſocieties of the world; whoſe internal condition, circumſtances, and profits, may not be by any means proper to be too narrowly pried into, ſo long as they, to all appearances, are proſperous and punctual in all their affairs; although, like a private merchant, their circumſtances may not be alike proſperous at all times.

1745 Our author having read in John Ker of Keiſland's Memoirs, That the city of Hamburg had no fewer than five thouſand ſhips and boats belonging to it; that looſe way of deſcribing its naval commerce not giving him ſufficient ſatisfaction, he applied, in the year 1745, to a Hamburg broker or agent, then reſiding at London, concerning the truth thereof: who freely acknowledged, "That of all the boats on the river Elbe belonging to Hamburg, and the vaſt "number of veſſels which that opulent city conſtantly employed in carrying of merchandize "up and down that large river to and from the counties of Mecklenburg, Pomerania, Saxony, Brandenburg, Bohemia, Sileſia, &c. were to be taken into the account, he knew not "whether there might not be ſo many of all kinds: but that the number of real ſhips trading "on the ocean and belonging to Hamburgh were not above three hundred; whereof one hundred and fifty conſiſted of from each two hundred tons to upwards of five hundred tons "burden; twenty-ſeven of which ſhips were then actually lying in the river Thames. And "And that the remaining one hundred and fifty were what is uſually called ſmall craft or "coaſters, trading principally to Holland. Beſide which," added he, "they had three "ſhips of war for the protection of their commerce from the Barbary rovers, which they keep "conſtantly in their pay, viz. two of forty to fifty guns each, and the third a ſmaller frigate." This account, ſeemingly a probable one, gives an high idea of the extenſive commerce and numerous ſhipping of that city.

The diſcovery of a north-weſt paſſage to the ſeas of Japan and China, continuing to be much the ſubject of converſation at London and other parts of Great Britain, an Act of Parliament paſſed in this eighteenth year of King George II. cap. xvii. For granting a public Reward to ſuch Perſon or Perſons, his Majeſty's Subject or Subjects, as ſhall diſcover a North-weſt Paſſage through Hudſon's Streights to the Weſtern and Southern Ocean of America, whereby it was enacted,

"That if any ſhip of his Majeſty's ſubjects ſhall find out and ſail through any paſſage by "ſea between Hudſon's Bay and the weſtern and ſouthern ocean of America, the owner, or "his aſſigns, ſhall receive a reward of twenty thouſand pounds. The commiſſioners for determining this diſcovery are therein named, being the great officers of ſtate, and of the "Treaſury, admirals, &c. Provided, however, that nothing in this act ſhall any ways extend to the prejudice of any part of the eſtate, rights, or privileges belonging to the Gover- "nor and Company of Adventurers of England trading into Hudſon's Bay."

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1745 To prevent the frauds committed in counterfeiting the stamps put on British and Irish linen, in order for receiving the bounty allowed on their exportation, a statute passed this same year, "For effectually preventing the Exportation of foreign Linens, under the Denomination of British or Irish linens."—cap. xxiv. By which several good regulations were made for preventing the counterfeiting the said stamps, &c.

And by the next following statute, cap. xxv. For allowing certain additional Bounties on the Exportation of British and Irish Linens, it was enacted, "That whereas the Linen Manufactures of Britain and Ireland are of late years greatly improved and increased; whereby the price of linens, as well of foreign as of home fabric, hath been considerably reduced—a further bounty on their exportation was hereby enacted, of one halfpenny per yard on linen of the value of five-pence, and not exceeding twelve pence per yard; and of three half-pence per yard for linen from above twelve pence to one shilling and six pence per yard," with several other regulations for preventing of frauds, &c. Which statute, it is hoped, will in time produce great and good consequences for the increase of our own and discouraging of foreign linens, for which such great sums are and have so long been paid, for supplying of the British, African, and American trades, and all our other exportations of linens; whereby our own people will be employed, and the money kept at home, so long paid to Germany, Prussia, and Russia, for the same.

As the statute of the said eighteenth year of King George II. cap. xxvi. For repealing the present inland Duty of Four Shillings per Pound Weight upon all Tea sold in Great Britain, and for granting to his Majesty certain other inland Duties in lieu thereof, &c. relates only to the alterations thereby made in the manner of collecting the duty on that commodity thereafter, we shall take no further notice of it, than merely to remark, that it is hereby enacted and provided, "that if at any time the British East India Company shall neglect to keep the London market supplied with a sufficient quantity of tea at reasonable prices, to answer the consumption thereof in Great Britain, the Board of Treasury may grant licences to any other person or persons, bodies politic or corporate, to import teas into Great Britain, from any part of Europe,—subject to the like duties, restrictions, and limitations, &c. as herein before prescribed, with respect to tea to be imported by the said East India Company from any part of Europe, &c."

It being evidently for the advantage of Great Britain, and particularly for the further promoting of her own linen manufactures and those of Ireland, that the wearing of foreign cambricks and French lawns should not be permitted, a statute of this same eighteenth year of King George the Second, cap xxxvi. For prohibiting the wearing and importation of cambricks and French Lawns, enacted, "That it shall not be lawful for any person in Great Britain to wear any cambrick or French Lawn, under the penalty of five pounds, and the like penalty on the sellers thereof, &c." If this law was seriously attended to be executed, as its title and preamble seem to import, there is reason to apprehend it has not fully answered the intention thereof: neither, perhaps, has a subsequent short act, of the twenty-first year of this reign, cap. xxvi. for explaining, amending, and enforcing the same, by further extending the penalties to the venders, and also to the milliners making up such cambricks.

Great Britain being at war with France, her province of New England alone, assisted by the King's ships of war, were, in this same year 1745, able to raise a sufficient land-force to besiege and take the town, forts, and port of Louisbourg, and the rest of the isle of Cape Breton

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1735 ton, which had been ſhamefully yielded to France by the treaty of Utrecht. Thoſe forces conſiſted of four thouſand and ſeventy men, excluſive of commiſſion officers, viz.

	Men.
By the Maſſachuſett's Bay	3,250
By New Hampſhire	304
By Connecticut	516
	4,070

Beſide the armed ſloops and ſailors belonging to thoſe colonies, and to that of Rhode Iſland. "The importance of Cape Breton is now well underſtood," ſays Sir William Pepperell, commander of thoſe forces, in his Journal of its Siege, "or rather of the iſlands of Madam and "Cape Breton, which are ſo contiguous, that they are by moſt people ſuppoſed to be but one "iſland, by the name of Cape Breton. It extends from the gut of Canſo, or Canceſſo, the "eaſtern boundary of Nova Scotia, eaſt-north-eaſt about thirty-four leagues, and is what "helps to form the Gulph of St. Laurence;—which gulph is full of commodious bays, ha-"vens, iſlands, rivers, and, at all ſeaſons of the year, has great plenty of cod-fiſh; and, at "particular ſeaſons of the year, has herrings, mackrel, &c. for bait: but the ice in winter "renders its navigation unſafe, if not altogether impracticable, at leaſt to make voyages for "fiſh; though in the ſummer ſeaſon there have been yearly fiſheries carried on at Gaſpay, at "the entrance of Canada River, and in the little harbours from thence to Bayverte, at the "iſlands of St. John and Magdalene,—at and through the gut of Canſo,—and thence along "the ſhore," (to many other places therein named) "and from Gaſpay round the north ſide "of the gulph at the ſeveral convenient ports on the main, quite to the ſtreights of Belle-Iſle. "And, by an allowance to the French in the treaty of Utrecht, which they have made the moſt "of, in all the harbours at the northward of Newfoundland, that were unemployed by the "Engliſh. And although, comparatively ſpeaking, there was but a ſmall number of their "ſhips that fiſhed at Cape Breton itſelf, yet the ſituation of that iſle is ſuch, that they could "all of them at pleaſure repair thither on any emergency or danger, eſpecially thoſe that fiſhed "in the gulph, on the main, or thoſe at the north-weſt of Newfoundland, who were all with-"in one or two days ſail at moſt; and alſo thoſe ſhips that laded with mud-fiſh on the Banks. "So that this iſland of Cape Breton was the key and protection of their whole fiſhery; and "for that end it was fortified and garriſoned, and valued by France equal to any other of its "colonies; although the harbour of Louiſbourg is not an extraordinary good one, and that "the iſland produces nothing either for food or raiment," (this is in part contradicted by-and-by) "ſo that the ſituation and convenience of this place, being, as it were, the center of "their whole fiſhery, and a cover and command to the whole gulph, was the greateſt induce-"ment to France to fortify it. What other uſes it might ſerve for, as a port, to the Eaſt and "Weſt India ſhips, and to thoſe bound to Canada, on occaſion to reſort to for wood and "water,—to clean or repair, &c not being ſo much in their view as the ſecuring and uphold-"ing the fiſhery.—Their conviction of the growing profits of the fiſhery there, and the "hopes of, one time or other, monopolizing it, made them take ſuch indefatigable and in-"direct means, the laſt war," (*i. e.* of Queen Anne) "to procure a neutrality, ſo far as re-

"lated

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1745 " lated to the fishery, which they obtained by dint of money; and on the peace, in order to " secure it to them for the future, stuck at no terms to obtain this island, which they had no " sooner effected, but they immediately settled it with a new colony of fishermen only.—And " a fishery flourished here so fast, that they could and did afford to undersell us at foreign " markets. And for the protection of the trade so to do, they had annual ships of war sent " from France to visit and supply them, with orders to protect and defend not only their sea-" coast, but their vessels on the Banks of Newfoundland, &c. and also to make and keep " their pretensions good to the several banks, within or without their line; and to make them-" selves a privilege, as it were, of fishing almost where they pleased, by force of custom: in " which they gradually increased, so that, in the year 1732, two of their men of war were " ordered on that station, to cruise on the Banks,—to examine into the state of the fishery,—" and to give them any necessary assistance and protection,—and to go from thence to Canada, " and so back to the fishery again, and thence to convoy those ships that had made their voy-" ages, and were ready to depart for Europe.

" The Marquis de la Maison Forte," continues Sir William Pepperell, " in his journal, " thus remarks,—Louisbourg is a good port and a safe harbour.—More than one hundred ves-" sels from France arrive there every year to fish, and make fish, (*i. e.* to cure them) of the " cod which they catch in the small craft of the country, and are after put into larger vessels, " where they salt them and dry them, from the beginning of June till October, when they " get ready to depart, each for his assigned port.

" This island also produces some grain; but though there are more than four thousand in-" habitants, they find their account much better in fishing than in husbandry, and conse-" quently the lands lie waste; as they procure all necessaries in exchange for their fish."

Our author proceeds to illustrate the magnitude and profits of the fishery of the French in those seas, viz.

	Men.
" I. From the Gut of Canso, down along the shore to Louisbourg, and from " thence to the north-east part of Cape Breton, there were annually employed at least " five hundred shallops, each of which required at sea and on shore at least five men; " in all — — — —	2,500
" II. Sixty brigantines, schooners, and sloops, with each fifteen men —	900
Total men employed	3,400

	Quintals.
" III. Each of the said five hundred shallops catch three hundred quin-" tals of fish in the summer season; in all — —	150,000
" IV. And each of the brigantines, schooners, and sloops, catch six " hundred quintals — — — —	36,000
Total quintals of fish annually made at Cape Breton	186,000

Carry forward men employed 3,400

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Brought forward men employed 3,400

" V. Now to carry this fish to Europe, there must be employed ninety-three " ships, of the burden of two thousand quintals each, and each ship has twenty " sailors; in all — — — — 1,860

" Total men employed in the fishery of Cape Breton 5,260

" VI. At Gaspay, Quadre, and other harbours, mentioned in the following estimate, there are six ships yearly, which as they come out from France, manned to catch their own cargoes in shallops, which they haul up, and leave in the country every winter, till they return in the next spring; these may, one with another, be allowed sixty hands. And it has always been allowed, from St. Maloes and Granville, that they have at least three hundred sail of those ships in this fishery, that fish at Petit-nord, Fichance, Belle-isle, and the Gulph; which, all being computed as above, and allowing those ships that so come out to make their own voyage to carry each three thousand quintals, will be as follows, viz.

	Ships.	*Men.*	*Quintals.*
At Cape Breton	93	5,260	186,000
— Gaspay	6	360	18,000
— Quadre	6	360	18,000
— Porte en Basque	6	360	18,000
— Les Foils Isles	3	180	9,000
— St. Maloes, &c.	300	18,000	900,000
Total	414	24,520	1,149,000

There go also ships from St. Jean de Luz, Bayonne, Nantes, and Havre de Grace; and beside all these, there have been constantly from the rivers Sindie, Olune, Poiteux, Havre, &c. one hundred and fifty ships, the French say two hundred sail, employed in the mud fishery, or *Mort-vest* as they call it, from sixteen to twenty-four men each; which carry home from twenty-two thousand to thirty thousand fish each. So, on the most moderate computation, one hundred and fifty sail of ships with twenty men each, is three thousand men; and by tale, three million nine hundred thousand fish in all.

" In regard to the value of this branch of trade, it is necessary to observe, that it also produces a large quantity of train-oil, viz. a hogshead of sixty gallons of oil out of every hundred quintals of fish, and this, out of the whole quantity before-named, will produce eleven thousand four hundred and ninety hogsheads of oil. And, allowing that four thousand fish, in number, are equal to one hundred quintals when cured, then the three million nine hundred thousand mud-fish, by the same rule, will yield nine hundred and seventy-five hogsheads of oil; which makes, in all, twelve thousand four hundred and sixty-five hogsheads of oil.

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	£.	s.	d.
" Now let the one million one hundred and forty-nine thouſand quintals of fiſh be valued at only ten ſhillings ſterling per quintal, (the prime coſt uſually at Newfoundland) and then it is worth —	574,500	0	0
" And to this allow three ſhillings ſterling per quintal, for freight, in " Engliſh bottoms, to market — — —	172,350	0	0
" And then the fiſh alone is worth — —	746,850	0	0
" And let the twelve thouſand four hundred and ſixty-five hogſheads, or " three thouſand one hundred and ſixteen tons and a quarter, of oil be va- " lued at eighteen pounds ſterling per ton — —	56,092	10	0
" And as for the mud-fiſh, they are generally ſold in France at one thou- " ſand livres for one thouſand fiſh; and then at eleven pence ſterling per li- " vre, their value is — — —	178,750	0	0
" And thus it appears, that one year's fiſhery of the French, is worth	981,692	10	0

" Which great branch of trade, in a manner, depends entirely on their poſſeſſion of the " iſland of Cape Breton, as it is impoſſible to carry it on without ſome convenient harbour " of ſtrength, &c.

" In addition to this, in regard to the woollen manufacture: every man employed in this " fiſhery conſuming in his back and bed-clothes the value of thirty ſhillings ſterling therein " yearly, is forty-one thouſand two hundred and fifty pounds ſterling. Add alſo hereto, the " canvas, cordage, hooks, lines, twine, nets, lead, nails, ſpikes, edge tools, graplins, an- " chors, which five hundred and ſixty-four ſhips and ſhallops muſt expend at ſea and on " ſhore, and allow all theſe to be Britiſh, and that Britain could keep it all to herſelf, and " the value will be found of greater conſequence than any other trade dependent on our plan- " tations, not even excepting the tobacco trade.

" Firſt, In regard to the raiſing of ſeamen for the royal navy.

" Secondly, In the conſumption of Britiſh manufactures and product: And,

" Thirdly, and above all, In a certain annual remittance of the balance of this trade from " Spain, Portugal, Italy, and other parts."

To all theſe advantages our author has forgot to add two very conſiderable ones, viz.

I. The great number of perſons employed in building, and of trades in fitting out thoſe veſſels. And,

II. The additional benefit to our landed intereſt, by the victualling of them.

" So that, all things duly conſidered, this acquiſition of Cape Breton, is, of itſelf, a " ſufficient compenſation for the war.—Moreover, by this conqueſt, France has not any one " ſea-port for the relief of their trading ſhips, either from the Eaſt or the Weſt Indies, open " to them any-where in North America to the northward of the river Miſſiſippi: for Canada " is not to be looked upon as an open port to the ſea, it being impracticable to go thither for " ſhelter, as being ſixty or ſeventy leagues within land, through the gulph, to the mouth of " the river; and then a great way farther up the river.—And even as to Canada itſelf, the " river is now ſo much under our command, as well as the gulph, that all trade, and even " communication there, may be very eaſily ſtopped by our ſhips from Cape Breton: ſo that,

1745 " without force of arms, in a very few years, that colony would fall, and the whole trade for " furs carried on with the Indians there, come into English hands. And a happier consequence still is, that hereby the French in Canada may not be kept from supplying the Indians, but also from encouraging them to annoy our frontiers: so that those Indians must " become dependent on us.—By this acquisition, likewise, we have secured to the nation the " garrison of Annapolis Royal, and the colony of Nova Scotia; which country being a very " rich and fertile soil, and its coasts and rivers abounding with fish, and settled with French " Catholics, that nation has much regretted the loss of, and wanted to recover.—Our holding " of Cape Breton will also keep those French inhabitants of Nova Scotia in strict allegiance " to his Majesty, or else oblige them to quit their possessions, which are all farms brought to " perfection, and fit for any service immediately. Had we not taken Cape Breton this year, " and the French had taken Annapolis, the consequence would then have been, that all the " inhabitants of Nova Scotia would have declared for France immediately; and the colony " would have been at once the French King's: whereby all the Cape Sable and St. John's Indians, who assisted France last year at the siege of Annapolis, together with those of Canada, " would have been let loose upon our frontiers."

This account of the vast value of Cape Breton, written by one living altogether in its neighbourhood, and who was knighted for the successful part he acted in the reducing of it to his Britannic Majesty's obedience, is, in general extremely correct; not being like the vague and romantic reports of unskilful writers, but the faithful narration of one who was every way qualified for, and equal to the task: he died in the year 1759, much about the time that it was again taken from France. And as this narrative is so copious, and at the same time so authentic, when we come to treat of its being re-taken in the year 1759, we need only then refer our readers to this survey of its benefits to us; or, at least, of the immense damage which our possession of that place, and the demolition of Louisbourg, will undoubtedly bring to the fishery of the port towns of France, and to their general commerce, navigation, and manufactures.

1746 To balance the before-mentioned great loss of the French in our taking of Cape Breton, they, in the following year 1746, took from our English East India Company their most important fort and town of Fort St. George on the Coromandel Coast, with the adjoining Black Town of Madras; wherein they found no inconsiderable quantity of wealth, merchandize, and treasure: they also captured one of that company's capital ships. This disaster obliged us in the treaty of peace in the year 1748, to restore Cape Breton to France, as the latter did Fort St. George to our company.

On the fifth of July 1746, his Britannic Majesty's charter passed, for erecting the British Linen Company. By which a number of Peers, and eminent Gentlemen and Merchants, were incorporated, " with a capital stock, not at first to exceed one hundred thousand pounds " sterling; but may be further increased, from time to time, as their affairs shall require, to " any limited sum, by his Majesty's sign manual. Their ordinary affairs to be conducted by " a governor, deputy-governor, and five directors. Their first governor was his Grace Archibald Duke of Argyle:" (the great promoter of this charter). " The company's principal residence to be at Edinburgh." One of the principal intentions of this company being to supply the British merchants trading to Africa and the American Plantations, with the like kinds of linen cloth as they were before obliged to purchase of foreign nations. Whereby it is to be hoped that much money will be saved to the nation, which till now has been carried abroad

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1746 abroad for those goods. A most worthy and truly-spirited design, which there is good ground to hope, will, in due time, fully answer expectation. The two before-quoted acts of Parliament of the preceding year 1745, the eighteenth of King George II. cap. xxiv. and xxv. were principally calculated to further this most laudable purpose.

By a British statute of this nineteenth year of King George the Second, cap. vi. For establishing an Agreement with the Bank of England, &c. "The said Bank agreed to deliver up "to the Treasury, nine hundred and eighty-six thousand eight hundred pounds in Exchequer "Bills; in lieu of which they were to have an annuity of four per cent. for that sum, out of "the fund for licensing of spirituous liquors. And the Bank were hereby impowered to add the "said nine hundred and eighty-six thousand eight hundred pounds to their capital stock, taking in subscriptions for that end."

	£.
So that at Michaelmas 1746, the whole debt due to the Bank from the public, was — — —	11,686,800
But the Bank now hold thereof, in their corporate capacity, the undivided sum of — — —	906,800
And the last sum being deducted, there remained of transferable capital, divided amongst all the proprietors, only — —	10,780,000

It being too common for commanders and mariners of British ships, lying in havens, rivers, ports, &c. to throw out their ballast on the shore or side, below the usual full sea-mark, to the great detriment and filling up of those havens, ports, rivers, &c. a law was passed in this nineteenth year of King George the Second, cap. xiii. prohibiting the throwing out thereof, or of any filth, rubbish, gravel, &c. but only on the land or ground where the tide never flows; under the penalty of at least fifty shillings, and not exceeding five pounds for every offence. And ships or vessels sunk or stranded in any such port, haven, or river, shall be forthwith weighed up and removed by order of the magistrates. This act (For the better Preservation of Havens, Roads, Channels, and navigable Rivers) extended only to that part of Great Britain called England.

The manufacture of sail-cloth for shipping had been long improving in Great Britain, and had been encouraged by several acts of Parliament; particularly by that of the ninth year of King George the Second, and another of the thirteenth of his said Majesty; whereby all foreign made canvas or sail-cloth imported, usually entered by the name of Holland's Duck, or Vitry Canvas, fit for ship's sails, and for which duties are payable, should be stamped as such, on its importation, to prevent its passing for British made sail-cloth; and if found unstamped to be forfeited, and the importer of it to forfeit fifty pounds; all which was now confirmed by an act of Parliament of the nineteenth of the said King, cap. xxvii. And that every ship or vessel which shall be built in Great Britain, and in his Majesty's plantations in America, shall, upon her first setting out, or being first navigated, have, or be furnished with one full and complete set of new sails, made of sail-cloth manufactured in Great Britain, under the penalty of fifty pounds on the master of the ship or vessel. And every sail-maker in Britain or the plantations shall, on every new sail, affix or impress, in letters and words at length, a stamp of eight inches diameter, whereon his name and place of abode shall plainly appear, under

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1746 under the penalty of ten pounds. All which particular clauſes were hereby to continue in force for ſeven years longer.

"It being found by experience, that the cuſtom in England of making aſſurances, intereſt "or no intereſt, or without further proof of intereſt than the policy, hath been productive "of many pernicious practices; whereby great numbers of ſhips with their cargoes have been "either fraudulently loſt or deſtroyed, or taken by the enemy in time of war: and that ſuch "aſſurances have encouraged the exportation of wool, and the carrying on of many other "prohibited and clandeſtine trades, &c." So ſays the preamble to a ſtatute of this nineteenth year of King George the Second, cap. xxxvii.—It was therefore now enacted, "That no "aſſurance ſhall be made on any ſhip belonging to his Majeſty, or any of his ſubjects, or on "any goods laden on board any ſuch ſhip, intereſt or no intereſt, nor without further proof "of intereſt than the policy, nor by any way of gaming or wagering, or without benefit of "ſalvage to the aſſurer. And that every ſuch aſſurance ſhall be null and void. Yet,

"Firſt, Aſſurance on private ſhips of war may be made for the owners thereof, intereſt or "no intereſt.

"Secondly, Any goods, merchandize, or effects, from any ports or places in Europe, or "America, in poſſeſſion of the crowns of Spain or Portugal, may be aſſured in ſuch manner "as if this act had not been made.

"Thirdly, It ſhall not be lawful to make re-aſſurance, unleſs the inſurer ſhall be inſolvent, "become a bankrupt, or ſhall die; in either of which caſes, re-aſſurance may be made.

"Fourthly, All ſums to be lent on bottomree, or at *reſpondentia*, upon any Britiſh ſhip "bound to the Eaſt Indies, ſhall be lent only on the ſhip, or on the merchandize laden on "board ſuch ſhip, and ſhall be ſo expreſſed in the bond: and benefit of ſalvage ſhall be al- "lowed to the lender, who alone ſhall have a right to make aſſurance on the money ſo lent. "—And none ſhall recover more than the value of his intereſt on the ſhip or on its merchan- "dize, excluſive of the money ſo borrowed. And if it appears, that the value of his ſhare "in the ſhip or merchandize does not amount to the full ſum ſo borrowed, ſuch borrower "ſhall be reſponſible to the lender for ſo much of the money borrowed as he hath not laid "out on the ſhip or merchandize, with lawful intereſt, together with the aſſurance and "charges, in the proportion the money not laid out ſhall bear to the whole money lent, not- "withſtanding the ſhip and merchandize may be totally loſt.

"Fifthly, In all actions the plaintiff ſhall declare, within fifteen days, what ſums he has "aſſured.

"Sixthly, Perſons ſued on policies of aſſurances are to bring the money into court; and "the plaintiff not accepting it with coſts to be taxed, in full diſcharge; and ſhall afterward "proceed to trial in ſuch action, and the jury ſhall not aſſeſs greater damages to pay coſts than "the money ſo brought into court: ſuch plaintiff, in every ſuch caſe, ſhall pay to the defen- "dant, in every ſuch action, coſts to be taxed.

"In conſequence of an act of Parliament, of the preceding year 1745, for granting a re- "ward of twenty thouſand pounds to the diſcoverers of a north-weſt paſſage through Hud- ſon's Bay to the ſeas of Japan and China, as already related, a ſubſcription for ten thouſand pounds was now ſet on foot, divided into one hundred ſhares of one hundred pounds each, for fitting out two ſhips in this year 1746, in ſearch of that paſſage. Thoſe ſhips wintered at Port Nelſon, in Hudſon's Bay; and, in the year following, viz. 1747, they made ſeveral attempts for a paſſage weſtward, but were obliged to return home, the ſame year,

quite

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1746 quite disheartened and unsuccessful; as has also been another attempt since made from Philadelphia. Yet, as this supposed passage was brought under the consideration of Parliament, in the year 1749, we shall suspend any further observations thereon till we come to that year.

1747 "By an exact survey very lately pretended to have been made of the city and suburbs of "Dublin, the capital city of Ireland, its circumference measured seven and three quarters "Irish miles, which are equal to nine miles and three quarters of English statute measure: "an Irish mile containing two thousand two hundred and forty yards, and an English one "but one thousand seven hundred and sixty yards. Whereby" said the public newspapers, in this year 1747, from Ireland, "it appears, that Dublin is the sixth in rank, of the largest "cities in Europe, for magnitude and number of inhabitants; the five greater cities being "London, Paris, Constantinople, Rome, and Moscow." This was quite an inaccurate account, for Rome is far from being in the rank which that writer places it: and lest any one may be thereby misled, we shall here just remark, that it is certain, that neither Rome nor Dublin ought to stand so forward amongst the great cities of Europe. For undoubtedly, Milan, Naples, Nurenberg, Petersburgh, Amsterdam, &c. stand higher than either of those two cities, as we hope to shew in our appendix.

The following succinct survey is taken from voyages, and other modern accounts, published about this time, being a catalogue of the forts, settlements, and factories, of the several European nations trading to, and in the way to East India, from the Isle of St. Helena quite to Japan, and which may give readers a good general idea of Europe's correspondence with East India, viz.

Possessed by Great Britain,

I. The Isle of St. Helena, situated in the sixteenth degree of south latitude, about one thousand two hundred miles west of the African coast, and one thousand eight hundred miles east of South America, being almost an entire rock, with a thin covering of vegetable earth, about twenty miles in circumference, with only one passage up to it, well fortified. It contains about two hundred families, who have sufficient produce to supply our East India ships, in their way from India, and those of other nations with which we are in peace, with fresh provisions, fruits, and vegetables but it is difficult for ships going to India to find it, because of the winds.

II. Balsora, or Bassora, at the upper end of the Persian Gulph, at the confluence of the Tigris and Euphrates rivers. Here is a British and also a Dutch factory. Hither come many ships from several nations of Europe and Asia, it being a place of great commerce. This place is also commodious to the English and Dutch, for conveying their letters home, overland, by way of Aleppo.

III. Gomron, in the said Persian Gulph, has both an English and Dutch factory, and subordinate inland ones, at Ispahan: there being a considerable trade carried on betwixt this place and India.

As to Mocha, in Arabia, near the mouth of the Red Sea, the English and Dutch companies resort to it for its coffee, hitherto the best in the world, but they have no settled factories there.

IV. In Cambaya, a province of proper India, the English Company have a President and Council at Surat, who have, or lately had, the supreme direction of the commerce on all the

well

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1747 west coast of Malabar. Its subordinate factories are at Agra, Amadabat, Lahor, &c. but not always confined to such places. At Anjengo the company built a fort in the year 1695.

V. On the said coast of Malabar, the town and port of Bombay, with its isle, is a sovereignty of our company; of which enough has been said elsewhere. And on the same coast there are factories, at Carwar, (Carwar is famous for the best pepper in India, for which reason our company has a fort there, as well as a factory; but pepper grows in general all over India, and therefore cannot be monopolized) Calecut, Telichery, Dabul, &c.

VI. On the Coromandel Coast, Britain has Fort St. George, having only an open road, and the adjoining Black Town of Madras. It is but a week's journey from the diamond mines of Golconda, held of the Mogul. Under the Governor and Council of this place, all the factories eastward, or beyond the Malabar coast, are subordinate, as,

Fort St. David, and the lesser ones of Vizagapatan, Ganjam, &c. on that coast.

VII. In the kingdom and bay of Bengal, the English Company has Fort William at Calcutta, Ballalore, Cazembazar, Dacca, Patana, and some other subordinate factories; though their later successful conflicts with the French in those parts, have since made considerable alterations in this part of India.

VIII In the great island of Sumatra, our company have a fort and factory at Bencouli (or Bencoolen) also Fort Marlborough, near it, and some other subordinate factories.

IX. In Borneo island the English have a factory at Benjar.

By the Dutch East India Company are held the following, viz.

I. The extensive and constantly improving colony of the most famous southern point of Africa, called, The Cape of Good Hope, in full sovereignty, with all its forts. where the ships of all nations in amity with the States General of the United Netherlands have liberty to stop and refresh: under it is the isle of Mauritius, eastward of Madagascar.

II. A factory at Bassora, before-mentioned.

III. A factory at Surat, under which are many subordinate ones.

IV. On the west coast of Malabar, the Dutch Company have Rajapore, Barcelor, Cananor, Panane, Cranganor, Cochin, (taken from the Portuguese, in the year 1662, after being possessed by them one hundred and fifty years, and so fortified as to be deemed impregnable: it is their principal settlement on this coast) Porcha, Carnapole, Coulan, Tegnapatan, Calecutt, &c. all taken from Portugal.

V. The entire coast, ports, and ports of the island of Ceylon, in full and absolute propriety, and the absolute engrossment of the best cinnamon in the world.

VI. In Manaar Isle, they have Teutecorin and Manapaar.

VII. On the coast of Coromandel, they have Negapatan, Porto-Novo, Sadraspatan, Cabelon, Palicat, famous for cotton cloths, (their chief fort and factory of that coast, and of Pegu: it was retaken by the Dutch Company, in the year 1719, from the Portuguese, who had held it ever since the year 1613, when they drove out the Dutch with great slaughter) Caletour, Masulipatan, Binlipatan, &c.

VIII. In Bengal, Huguely, the chief factory, Balasore, Cazembazar, Malda, Barnagal, Chincara, Patana, Dacca, &c.

IX. In Malacca Peninsula, the strong fort and territory of that name.

X. In the island of Sumatra, the Dutch Company have factories at Acheen, Padang, Palimbam, Priaman, Bancalis, Siaque, &c.

A. D. 1747 XI. In Java Iſland, they have the great and ſtrong city of Batavia, the capital and dernier reſort of all their Eaſt India forts, ſettlements, and factories; with a far extended territory adjoining: alſo in the ſaid iſland they have factories at Bantam, Cheraban, Tagal, Japara, Rombang, Sorobay, &c.

XII. In the kingdom of Siam, factories at Siam, its capital, and at Ligore.

XIII. And at Aracan, in the kingdom of that name.

XIV. In the Iſle of Celebes, they have Macaſſar, its capital.

XV. In the Iſles of Borneo, Solor, Buro, Poleroon, Noro, Ceram, Ambay, &c. the Dutch Company have forts or factories; and in the Spice Iſlands of Amboyna, Ternate, Banda, Timor, &c. they are abſolute ſovereigns, poſſeſſing ſolely and excluſively all the ſpices of cloves, nutmegs, and mace, no where elſe to be found upon earth, that is as yet certainly known.

XVI. In Perſia, Gomron, and under it Iſpahan and Balſora.

Poſſeſſed by France, viz.

Thoſe of the French Eaſt India Company in India, were, viz.

I. A factory at Surat.

II. On the coaſt of Coromandel, the ſtrong fort and very populous town of Pondichery, with ſome ſubordinate ones. Piece goods, diamonds, and rice, being the ſtaple merchandize not only here, but on all this coaſt. It has, however, no harbour, being only an open road like Fort St. George, where they lade and unlade their merchandize by boats. But this fort and city of Pondichery was taken by our Eaſt India Company's forces, jointly with ſome of our King's troops, in the year 1761.

III. In Bengal, they have Balaſore and Chandnagar, &c.

IV. The French Iſle of Bourbon, formerly called Maſcareen Iſle, to the eaſtward of the great Iſland of Madagaſcar, ſerves principally for a refreſhing place for their Eaſt India ſhips: they have alſo, more lately, raiſed quantities of coffee therein, and made ſeveral other good improvements.

Portugal, as already obſerved, was once lord-paramount of all the trade of Europe to the Eaſt Indies, from whom the Dutch gradually plucked off the beſt feathers of its wings.—What they have ſtill left is but inconſiderable, compared with what they have loſt, or with thoſe of England and Holland, although they ſtill retain a great ſound.

I. On the north eaſt coaſt of Africa beyond the Cape of Good Hope, they have Quiloa, Mombaza, Melinda, Mozambique, Magadoxa, &c. Ports very uſeful in their voyages to and from India, originally ſettled by them for that end: they alſo got conſiderable quantities of gold and drugs from thence.

II. In Cambaya, they ſtill retain the ſtrong forts of Diu and Dama, often in vain beſieged by the great armies of the Moguls.

III. On the Malabar Coaſt, Baſſaim, near the Iſle of Salſet, Choul and Bandara. Goa, on the ſame coaſt, is the capital of all their Eaſt India ſettlements; now inconſiderable for its commerce, and much decayed from its ancient ſplendor. Alſo the Iſles of Elephant, Carranjaa, Anjediva: alſo Annanor, Cavarda, Mangalor, and Moors Fort.

IV. On the Coromandel coaſt, they have St. Thomas, or Meliapour.

V. And laſtly, they have ſtill Macao Iſle, near the mouth of Canton river in China, but tributary to, and abſolutely at the mercy of the Chineſe.

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1747 The Danes have long possessed the port and fort of Tranquebar, on the Coromandel Coast, and the subordinate one of Danesburg.

The Swedes have as yet no established factories in India, although they generally send one or two ships yearly thither. Neither have they at present any settlements any where out of their own kingdom, but in Germany.

Spain possesses the best forts of the Philippine Isles, as Manilla, the capital town and port of the large isle of that name, otherwise called Lucon. To which port of Manilla, the Spaniards from Acapulco, in Mexico, generally send two great ships yearly. But Spain can carry on no trade at all directly from Europe to the East Indies; being bound by treaty with Portugal, not to sail thither by the Cape of Good Hope, as well as by the general treaty of Westphalia, in the year 1648.

N. B. The Dutch East India Company are the only Europeans who have any trade to the empire of Japan, from their great emporium of Batavia; but are not permitted to have any fort or factory at Japan.

Neither are any of the European nations, who trade to China, permitted to have factories there. The English Company had formerly settlements on the coasts of Cochin-China and Tonquin, but now they only trade thither occasionally. It is not the design of our work to be particular with respect to all the squabbles which the several European nations have had with each other in India, or with the several nations of the East, that being largely done by voyagers long since, but purely to point out the general extent of their commerce in that remote part of the world.

After a mad rebellion, raised in the summer of the year 1745, by a number of desperate and stupid tools of our hereditary foes the French, and carried on till the spring of the following year 1746; the legislature at length wisely determined to enact what should undoubtedly have been made an essential preliminary of the consolidating union of the two kingdoms of England and Scotland, concluded forty years before, whereby, and not till now, the true and solid liberties of the people of Scotland were established, not only in those parts of that country called the Highlands, (the source of all the rebellions against the best constitution upon earth) where Clanship, or an abject submission of the bulk of the people to the sovereign will of their chieftains, had ever prevailed even from the earliest times, but even, though in a lesser degree, in several parts of the Low Country of Scotland: that is to say, it was now legally determined to put all the people of Scotland upon the same equitable and rational footing of liberty and property, with their fellow-subjects of England, by an act of Parliament of this twentieth year of King George II. cap. xliii. For taking away and abolishing the heretable Jurisdictions in that Part of Great Britain called Scotland, and for making Satisfaction to the Proprietors thereof: and for restoring such Jurisdictions to the Crown: and for making more effectual Provision for the Administration of Justice throughout that Part of the united Kingdom, by the King's Courts and Judges there, &c. The preamble whereof sets forth, " that " for remedying the inconveniences that have arisen and may arise from the multiplicity and " extent of heretable jurisdictions in that part of Great Britain called Scotland; for making " satisfaction to the proprietors thereof; for restoring to the crown the powers of jurisdictio[n] " originally and properly belonging thereto, according to the constitution; and for extendin[g] " the influence, benefit, and protection of the King's laws and courts of justice to all h[is] " Majesty's subjects in Scotland; and for rendering the union more complete;—it w[as] " enacted, .. In

" I

A. D. 1747 " First, That all hereditary jurisdiction of justiciary, and all regalities and heretable bail-" lieries, and all heretable constabularies, other than the office of High Constable of Scot-" land, and all stewartries, being parts only of shires or counties, and all sheriffships and " deputy-sheriffships of districts, being parts only of shires or counties in Scotland; possessed " or claimed by any subject—and all jurisdictions, powers, authorities, and privileges there-" unto appurtenant, annexed, or dependant thereupon, shall be hereby, from Lady-day 1748, " abrogated, taken away, and totally dissolved and extinguished.

" Provided, That all lands annexed to the said heretable baillieries, stewartries, and con-" stabularies,—and the rents and duties, consisting in money, victual, cattle, or other goods,—" shall remain and belong to them, and their heirs and successors, and continue to be enjoyed " by, and paid to them, notwithstanding the extinction of the said offices.

" Secondly, That all the before-named jurisdictions, powers, &c. belonging to such offices, " shall thenceforth be vested in and exercised by the Court of Session and Court of Justiciary " at Edinburgh, the judges in the several circuits, and the courts of the several sheriffs and " stewarts of shires or counties in Scotland respectively;—and that the several towns, villages, " districts, and bounds, which were subject to such heretable offices and jurisdictions hereby " dissolved, and the inhabitants thereof, shall thenceforth be solely subject to the jurisdiction " and authority of the before-named courts, and to such other of the King's courts respec-" tively, as the said inhabitants would have been subject, in case such hereditary jurisdictions " and offices had never existed.

" Thirdly, That, from thenceforth, all such heretable jurisdictions, in Scotland, not here-" by before extinguished, granted to, or possessed by any subject, either heretably, or for life, " shall be hereby resumed and annexed to the crown, and that the sheriffs and stewarts shall " from thenceforth be nominated and appointed by his Majesty, his heirs and successors.

" Provided, That no sheriffship or stewartry in Scotland shall at any time hereafter be " granted to any person whatsoever, either heretably or for life, or for any certain time ex-" ceeding one year: and, that no justiciary, regality, constabulary, or bailliery, nor any judi-" cature, authority, &c. of the like nature shall, at any time hereafter, be erected or granted " in Scotland.

" Fourthly, Reasonable pecuniary compensation shall be allowed to the possessors of all " such heretable jurisdictions hereby abrogated, and to every clerk thereof: and claims " thereof shall be duly entered and examined for this end, and be laid before the Parliament.

" Provided also, That no baron, or heretor, or proprietor of lands in Scotland shall hence-" forth, in criminal cases, exercise any jurisdiction whatsoever, other than assaults and smaller " crimes, for which the punishment shall only be a fine not exceeding twenty shillings " sterling; or by setting in the stocks for at most three hours in the day time,—or else by im-" prisonment not exceeding one month. And, in civil causes, such baron or his baillie shall " hold no plea, nor judge in any cause exceeding forty shillings sterling; other than for re-" covering from the vassals or tenants of his lands and heritages their rents, or the dues of " their mills. Prisons shall have windows or grates, open to inspection from without, so as " the prisoner may be visited and conversed with; and none to be imprisoned but by warrant, " expressing the cause of imprisonment.

" Provided, however, that the jurisdiction of fairs and markets, of coal works, salt works, " and mines, be, as formerly, reserved to their heretors; but without a power of inferring " the loss of life or demembration.—Provided also, that nothing in this act shall extend to

 " prejudice

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1747 " prejudice the jurisdiction vested by law in any royal borough in Scotland, or, in cumulative " cases, to burghs of regality and barony." The rest of this long act relates to poyndings, or seizures; to the regulations and qualifications of sheriffs, and their deputies, circuit courts and appeals therefrom, in certain civil causes, and to fines, &c.

This excellent statute may, not unfitly, be termed a new Magna Charta to the free people of Scotland; who, from this time, though perhaps not merely or solely in direct consequence thereof, but also from other concurring causes, have undoubtedly most visibly increased in commerce, manufactures, wealth, and general industry; to a degree said to be almost amazing to such as, after some years absence, have lately visited that part of the united kingdom. So great is the influence of liberty in favour of industry and commerce.

N. B. " It having been found by experience, that the tenure of lands in Scotland, by " wardholding, and the consequences of the same, being the casualties of ward-marriage and " recognition, had been much more burdensome and prejudicial to the vassals by that tenure, " than beneficial to the superiors:" it was abolished by the fiftieth statute of the same session, For taking away the Tenure of Ward-holding in Scotland, &c. enacted, " That the same be " converted into blanch-holding and feu holdings, &c. to be further regulated, with respect to " the recompence, by the Court of Session in Scotland, &c." This act seems to have been all that was wanting for compleating the freedom of vassals in Scotland.

There was another law of this same year and session of Parliament, extremely well judged for the advancement of the prosperity of the British American Plantations, viz. An act, cap. xliv. To extend the Provisions of an Act made in the thirteenth Year of his present Majesty's Reign, intituled, " An Act for naturalizing such foreign Protestants, and others therein " mentioned, as are settled or shall settle in any of his Majesty's Colonies in America," to other foreign Protestants who conscientiously scruple the taking of an oath. This law was expresly intended, " in favour of the congregation of Moravian brethren and other foreign " Protestants, not Quakers, who conscientiously scruple the taking of an oath, and are settled " in his Majesty's colonies in America; and whereas they and many others of the like per- " suasion are desirous to transport themselves thither, if the benefit of that act were extended " to them,—it was now enacted, that foreign Protestants, before described, born out of the " ligeance of his Majesty, who have inhabited, or who shall inhabit and reside for the space " of seven years or more, in any of his Majesty's said colonies, without being absent from the " same longer than two months at any one time; and shall subscribe the declaration of fide- " lity, and affirm the effect of the abjuration-oath,—and also the profession of their Christian " belief, as subscribed by the first of King William and Queen Mary, shall be adjudged and " taken to be his Majesty's natural-born subjects to all intents and purposes. Provided such " persons, so to be thus naturalized, shall, within three months next before his taking such " affirmation and making such declaration, have received the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper " in some Protestant or reformed congregation in some of those colonies, and shall produce a " certificate thereof: when they shall enjoy all the privileges of this act and of that of the be- " fore-named thirteenth year of the King, but shall however be subject to all the restrictions " of that act relating to foreign Protestants thus naturalized: provided also, that nothing in " that act, nor in the present one, shall be construed to extend to naturalize any who, by " virtue of an act of the fourth year of his present Majesty's reign, entitled, An Act to ex- " plain a Clause in an Act of the seventh of Queen Anne, cap. iv. for naturalizing foreign " Protestants, which relates to the Children of the natural-born Subjects of the Crown of

2 " England,

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1747 "England, or of Great Britain: are declared and enacted not to be entitled to the benefit of "the said act of the seventh of Queen Anne."

The buildings and inhabitants of the town of Liverpool in Lancashire, being of late years so greatly increased by its vastly extended foreign commerce, that, although until the tenth and eleventh years of King William the Third, it was not so much as made a distinct or separate parish from that of Walton, whereof it was a part; and that thereby a new church was erected therein: and that still greatly increasing, it had another parish church erected therein, by an act of the first year of King George the First, in the year 1715. "And whereas, by a "statute of this twenty-first year of King George II. cap. xxiv. it appeared, that its buildings "and inhabitants were further so greatly increased, that the said churches were not sufficient "to contain one third part of its inhabitants professing the doctrine of the church of England; "another church was hereby authorised to be erected in the said town." By this last-named statute, several regulations were enacted for cleansing, paving, and enlightening the streets of Liverpool, and for a goodly nightly watch therein. Such have been, and ever will be, the consequences of an increasing commerce, viz. neatness, beauty, and safety.

The planters in the English sugar colonies, in the infancy of those plantations, had cultivated considerable quantities of indigo, as being always a great merchantable commodity, whereby their mother-country was then well supplied therewith. Some authors have related, that in the island of Jamaica, indigo was produced in such abundance, especially in the parish of Vere, that three hundred coaches have been seen at that parish church on Sundays. But a tax of three shillings and six-pence per pound-weight, being by the legislature laid on indigo, the planters of Jamaica dropped the cultivation thereof entirely, and although the Parliament afterwards repealed that duty, yet a manufacture once lost, is not easily regained, more especially in a country so expensive as Jamaica is. Yet what that people were not willing or able to effect, has at length been brought to bear by the industrious planters of Carolina, greatly to their honour, and, we hope, to their future great benefit.

In succeeding times, the other West India Islands found, that the planting of the sugar-cane was beyond all other things the most gainful; and therefore they also gradually dropped the cultivation of indigo. Nevertheless, the French islands in the neighbourhood of ours, instead of following that example, went on with annually increasing their quantity of indigo; so that, excepting what comes from the East Indies, and some which Spain imports from her American colonies, France, till about this time, supplied the greatest part of Europe with it from their West India Islands; and Britain and Ireland alone have been, by common estimation, reckoned to have paid to France about two hundred thousand pounds annually for indigo. This would probably have been the case still, had not the people of both North and South Carolina made this year a successful attempt to propagate the growth of indigo in that province. Those two colonies had by this time carried the production of rice to such a height, that even in time of peace, its quantity had over-stocked those parts of Europe to which they were wont to send it, so that they got but little by it; the case was still worse when the war with France broke out, in the year 1743, by reason of the high freight and insurances. This put the planters of that fine country upon trying to employ their negroes on several new manufactures of linen, woollen, &c. which they were before accustomed to take from Great Britain; of which their said mother-country would soon have become jealous, and which, moreover, did not much turn out to their own particular advantage. Upon this occasion, it was fortunate for those colonies, that the true indigo plant happened to be discovered to

grow

1747 grow ſpontaneouſly almoſt every where there. Whereupon eſſays began to be made a year or two preceding this year 1747, and the indigo anſwered expectation ſo far, that in this ſame year, about two hundred thouſand pound-weight of it was ſhipped for England, and ſold very well, though not at firſt quite ſo well cured as the French indigo. This ſucceſs produced a petition to Parliament from the Carolina merchants, in April 1748, for a ſmall bounty on the importation of indigo from Carolina, whereby the planters might be encouraged to proceed ſo far, as not only to ſupply Great Britain and Ireland, but likewiſe foreign markets with ſo univerſal a commodity: whilſt, at the ſame time, petitions were encouraged from merchants, clothiers, and dyers from all parts of England, in favour of this new production, ſince brought to great perfection; and that, as indigo is a commodity without which a good blue colour cannot be dyed, a bounty might be allowed on its importation in ſomewhat near the terms of the Carolina merchants petition. Whereupon, in the year 1748, an act paſſed (the twenty-firſt of George the Second, cap. xxx.) for allowing ſix-pence per pound-weight on all indigo raiſed in any of the Britiſh American colonies, and imported into Great Britain directly from the place of its growth; which has ſince then had a very good and ſucceſsful effect.

The following number of ſhips from Europe were all that were in China in this year 1747, viz. eight from England; ſix Dutch; four Swediſh; and two Daniſh: in all twenty ſhips.—The French being at war with Great Britain, did not ſend thither any ſhips in this year.

1748 We have ſeen the ſtatute repealed of the ſeventh year of Queen Anne, cap. v. For a general Naturalization of foreign Proteſtants, by an act of the tenth of that Queen, cap. v. the preambles to both which ſtatutes, as we have already ſhewn, are as contrary to each other as light is to darkneſs. In the beginning of 1748, an attempt was made in Parliament, and a bill brought into the Houſe of Commons, for the revival of the firſt-named ſtatute, in behalf of a general naturalization: but it was thrown out by a great majority. The ſubſtance of the reaſons for rejecting it was, That we had poor Proteſtants of our own, even more than we could well provide for; and as a moderate expence would enable any foreign Proteſtants who ſhall have brought any ſubſtance with them ſufficient to obtain an act of Parliament for that end; ſuch only were worth our while to be received and ſettled with us. This was again brought into Parliament in April 1751, but then was alſo rejected,

On the other hand, let us, on this occaſion, ſee what a very able nobleman has ſaid on that ſubject, viz. my Lord Moleſworth, in the Preface to his Engliſh Tranſlation of Hottoman's Franco-Gallia, in the year 1721, p. 23-4, ſecond edition, viz.

" What ſhould hinder us from an act of general naturalization?—Eſpecially when we con-
" ſider, that no private acts of that kind are refuſed. But the expence is ſo great, that few
" attempt to procure them, and the benefit which the public receives thereby is therefore in-
" conſiderable.—Experience has ſhewn us the folly and falſity of thoſe plauſible inſinuations,
" that ſuch a naturalization would take the bread out of Engliſhmen's mouths. We are con-
" vinced, that the greater number of workmen of one trade there is in any town, the more
" does that town thrive; and the greater will be the demand for the manufacture, the vent to
" foreign parts, and the quicker circulation of the coin. The conſumption of the produce of
" both land and induſtry increaſes viſibly in towns full of people; nay, the more ſhall every
" induſtrious perſon thrive in ſuch a place; though indeed drones and idlers will not find
" their account, who would fain ſupport their ſuperfluous expences at their neighbours coſt,
" who make one or two days labour provide for four days extravagance. And this is the
" common calamity of moſt of our corporation towns, whoſe inhabitants do all they can to
" diſcourage

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1748 " diſcourage plenty, induſtry, and population ; and will not admit of ſtrangers but upon hard " terms, through the falſe notion that they themſelves, their children, and apprentices, have " the only right to ſquander their town's revenue, and to get, at their own rates, all that is to " be gotten within their precincts.—And therefore ſuch towns are, at beſt, at a ſtand, very few " in a thriving condition, and theſe are where their bye-laws are leaſt reſtrictive : but moſt " throughout England fall to viſible decay, whilſt new villages, not incorporated, or towns " more liberal of their privileges, grow up in their ſtead, till in proceſs of time, the firſt ſort " will become almoſt as deſolate as Old Sarum in Wiltſhire, and will as well deſerve to loſe " their right of ſending repreſentatives to Parliament. For, certainly, a waſte or deſart has " no right to be repreſented, nor by our original conſtitution was ever intended ſo to be."

His Lordſhip had immediately before ſaid, " That it is a truth which few will make a doubt " of, that we are not one third part peopled, though better ſo, in proportion, than any other " part of Europe, Holland excepted ; and that our ſtock of men decreaſes daily, through our " wars, plantations, and ſea-voyages."

Had his Lordſhip lived to ſee the years 1759, 1760, and 1762, and the very great difficulty there then was of manning our fleets and armies, he would probably have been much further confirmed in the expediency of a general naturalization.

In this year 1748, the populace in Holland having compelled their rulers to aboliſh the old exciſe duty, amounting to ten millions of guilders for that ſingle province, we thereby have learned, in ſome degree at leaſt, the proportion of the wealth which the ſeveral other places of that moſt populous province bears to its mighty metropolis, viz.

	Guilders.
Amſterdam paid annually — — —	3,802,720
Rotterdam (about one-fourth part of Amſterdam) —	997,950
Haerlem (above one-fifth) — — —	801,200
Leyden, (above one-fifth) — — —	783,130
Dort (almoſt one-ſeventh) — — —	511,960
Gouda (almoſt one-eighth) — — —	459,500
Alkmaer — — — —	267,100
Briel — — — —	232,290
Delft, Schiedam, and the Hague — — —	1,492,860
Hoorn — — — —	153,240
Gornichem — — — — —	141,760
Enchuyen — — — —	105,060
Monickendam — — — —	68,420
Purmerend — — — —	61,260
Medenblick — — — —	45,460
The Iſlands off the coaſt of Holland — —	42,740
Total is ten millions —	10,000,000

Whilſt the new ſubſidy of five per cent. on imported commodities was in debate, both within and without doors at London, in the year 1748, the ſugar planters and Weſt India merchants, greatly alarmed thereat, publiſhed ſeveral eſſays, tending to ſhew the ruin, or at leaſt the great detriment which that duty, which however took place, would bring on the ſugar colonies —

From

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1748 From thoſe eſſays, as well as from the cuſtom-houſe accounts then laid before the Parliament, we may gather the true ſtate of the Britiſh ſugar trade compared with that of France, taking the year 1742 for the rule; probably becauſe we were that year at peace with France, 'though at war with Spain, viz.

Firſt. Sugars produced at the French Weſt India iſlands, in the year 1742, viz.

		C. Wt.
On Martinico, Guadaloupe, and the other leſſer iſles	—	622,500
On Hiſpaniola — — — —	—	848,000
Total hundred-weight	—	1,470,500

Being about the quantity of one hundred and twenty-two thouſand five hundred hogſheads of twelve hundred-weight each.

Secondly, Sugars produced at the Britiſh Weſt India iſles, in the year 1742.

	Hogſheads.		
Imported into Great Britain — —	60,950		
Shipped from our iſlands to the northern colonies and to foreign markets — —	5,000		
Total hogſheads —	65,950	— or -	791,400 Cwt.
Of which ſixty thouſand nine hundred and fifty hogſheads there are exported from Great Britain to Ireland, and to all foreign markets, hogſheads	5,236		
Conſumed in Great Britain — —	55,714		
Hogſheads, at about twenty-five pounds per hhd.	60,950	— or about	731,400 Cwt.
Total produced in that year more by the French than by the Engliſh			679,100 Cwt.

This ſhewed the almoſt incredible improvements which France had made in her ſugar iſlands in about forty years; in conſequence of which they were at this time enabled to underſell us in moſt places of Europe. Though we truſt the time is at length come, or at hand, when we ſhall regain our former great exportation to foreign parts of ſugars, and other Weſt India commodities.

	£.
Thirdly, Thoſe eſſays however do admit, that in times of profound peace, both with France and Spain, our ſugar iſles may produce ſeventy-five thouſand hogſheads of ſugar annually, twelve hundred-weight each hogſhead: of which ſeventy thouſand hogſheads may be annually imported into Great Britain; which, at fifteen pounds per hogſhead, comes to — — — —	1,050,000
And five thouſand hogſheads ſent directly from thoſe iſlands to North America, and to foreign markets, at ten pounds each; with fifty thouſand of rum and melaſſes, at ſix pounds on an average, per hogſhead — —	350,000
Total value in ſterling money —	1,400,000

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1748 The tendency of thofe reafonings was to demonftrate that the then high price of our fugars was not owing to our planters extravagant profits; but merely to the fmall quantities produced in fome years. They alfo admitted, that, fince France has fo vaftly improved her faid colonies, there is more fugar made in all America, including the Spanifh, Portuguefe, Dutch, and Danifh colonies, in fome favourable years than all Europe can confume: which was particularly the reafon of the low price of fugars between the years 1728 and 1735. Now, fay thefe effays, if the value of the coffee, pimento, logwood, and mahogany, from Jamaica, and of the ginger, cotton, and drugs, from that and other Britifh Sugar Ifles be added to the foregoing account, the importations from thofe iflands may, probably, amount to one million five hundred thoufand pounds yearly.

There were alfo, whilft the bill for that duty was depending in Parliament, feveral accounts publifhed by the tobacco merchants for preventing that commodity's being included therein. And it appeared upon a medium of three years, in the Cuftom-houfe books, viz, 1744, 1745, and 1746, that there was imported into England alone (omitting the odd hundred thoufands) forty millions of pounds weight of tobacco from our American Plantations. And by the like medium there was exported thirty-three millions: fo that England annually confumed feven millions of pounds weight of tobacco.

	£.	s.	d.
And if England alone were to pay the duty of four-pence three farthings per pound on the faid forty millions of pounds, it would amount in fterling money to — — — — — —	791,666	13	4
But as thirty-three millions of pounds are annually exported, and the whole duty thereof drawn back, the duty is to be deducted —	653,125	0	0
So the net duty of the feven millions confumed in England is	138,541	13	4
Now, valuing the thirty-three millions of pounds of tobacco at fix-pence per pound weight, that will be — — —	825,000	0	0
And if Scotland may be allowed to export annually feven millions of pounds, that, at fix-pence per pound, likewife comes to —	175,000	0	0
There will then be annually exported from Great Britain forty millions of pounds, which, at fix-pence per pound comes to —	1,000,000	0	0

Which faid million fterling may be deemed to be all clear gain to the nation, over and above this trade's giving employment to about twenty-five thoufand tons of Britifh fhipping. Some of the printed accounts publifhed on this particular occafion, for influencing the legiflature in favour of our tobacco colonies, (and which therefore are to be read with fome caution, like all others publifhed for fuch particular ends) make our annual importation of tobacco into Great Britain, to be one year with another, about eighty thoufand hogfheads, weighing nine hundred pounds weight each, or feventy-two millions of pounds. And they generally fuppofed one-fourth part thereof, or eighteen millions, to be confumed at home, and that the remaining fifty-four millions were annually re-exported for foreign confumption.

Others made our total annual importation of tobacco but fixty-two thoufand hogfheads, or fifty-five millions eight hundred thoufand pounds; and that England alone confumes twelve thoufand hogfheads thereof; which, if all paid the duty of four-pence three farthings per lb would

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1748 would yield two hundred and thirteen thousand seven hundred and fifteen pounds to the crown But as considerable quantities are smuggled inwards for home consumption, the whole duty may not be above one hundred and fifty thousand pounds, and according to others of those papers but one hundred and thirty thousand pounds. Whereas, say they, if the whole for home consumption paid the duty, it would yield much more: which shews the great loss to the revenue, only in this one single article by smuggling.

In April of the said year 1748, application was made to Parliament by the then expiring Royal African Company, and their few friends within doors, for committing the management of their forts and factories, (for the preservation whereof the Commons did not seem inclined to trust that company any more with money) to a new company, with a suitable joint stock: which company they proposed should have "the licensing and regulating the whole business "of pawnbrokers, for preventing their buying or lending money on stolen goods, and for "reducing their exorbitant rates of fifty, forty, and thirty per cent. per annum, for interest "or premium, to twenty per cent. at furthest." Which scheme was to lay the foundation of their proposed joint stock.

At the same time the creditors of the Royal African Company petitioned the House of Commons, for having their claim paid out of the supposed value of that company's forts on that coast, now valued at one hundred and fifty thousand pounds, and proposed to be paid by the new company to the old one. Which plausible project had two different views, viz. hereby the old company would be enabled to pay all their debts, the greatest part whereof was due to themselves; *i. e.* to the directors and their friends, and would over and above have, probably, a dividend to make on their then merely nominal capital, on its dissolution.

Secondly, That the proposed new company should spring up out of the ruins of the said old one and their creditors, with a few others of their friends; and would, without doubt, have made a good interest on the money they should advance for the before-named purposes out of the said scheme for regulating of pawn-brokers. For supporting of this plausible scheme, the old company and their creditors insisted, "that one hundred and fifty thousand pounds was a "very moderate valuation of their forts on the African shores; not only considering their "very great usefulness against the treachery and insults of the natives, but likewise for defence "against the too frequent encroachments of other European competitors with large joint "stocks. That so far is the objection so often made from being just, viz. That if all our "forts in Africa were to be demolished, excepting Cape-Coast-Castle, and also James-Fort "in the river Gambia, those two forts, together with two or three ships of war always cruising "thereabout, would be sufficient to protect the trade of the whole coast; that there is actually "need of more forts than we now have, particularly at Anamaboe and Sierra Leone, and also "higher up on the river Gambia, where the French are striving to supplant us. That it is "admitted, that ships of war, jointly with all the forts, are needful; but, without our forts, "that would by no means answer our purpose on so uncivilized a coast; where, for that "reason, a joint stock company is much better calculated for protecting the commerce than "any number of private persons can be. Also, that those forts are very useful for our negro trade; without which our American plantations could not be supported; more especially as the best negroes are purchased at and about those coasts where the company's "forts and settlements are: from which coasts also we import gold, ivory, bees-wax, beaver, "and many other valuable commodities, in exchange for British manufactures and our own "East India merchandize. Lastly, Without such forts and settlements, it would be not only

"extremely

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1748 "extremely difficult to protect, and, in cases of distress, to relieve our ships trading on that "coast, but also to secure the inland trade thereof." Notwithstanding all which at least specious proposals, the African Company's papers remained on the table to the end of that session of Parliament: so difficult did our legislators find it at this time effectually to settle that trade.

All parties being weary of war, a peace was, in this same year 1748, concluded at Aix la Chapelle. Whereby all that had been conquered by France in the Austrian and Dutch Netherlands was restored to their respective sovereigns. Moreover, between Great Britain and France, it was stipulated, mutually to restore whatever forts or territories had during this war been taken on either side: so that fort St. George in India was restored to our East India Company; as, on the other hand, the island of Cape Breton, and its town and fortress of Louisbourg, were restored to France.

With respect to Spain, she indeed acceded to the general peace, but without any particular stipulations in point of commerce between Great Britain and her: what related to the South Sea Company's commerce, on one hand, and the depredations of the Spanish guarda costas, on the other, being referred to the disagreeable and tedious way of negociating, by Sir Benjamin Keene, at Madrid. In the mean time, it was plain, that the court of Spain never intended to permit another annual South Sea ship to trade to their West Indies, there being but about four years to run of the term of that contract, viz. forty years from 1713 to 1753, the several interruptions of the trade being deducted or allowed for. And whilst this suspension continued, many things passed in conversation, and several essays were published for and against that manner of trading. In favour of it, it was said, that the great annual ship usually conveyed about two hundred and fifty thousand pounds value in manufactures from hence to the Spanish West Indies, for the company's account, and that in each of those great ships there went about fifty thousand pounds more in private trade: upon which trade, it was alleged, a profit of near cent. per cent. was made. That therefore the gain to the nation was greater this way than in or by the old channel of our trade by the way of Cadiz, even though the Jamaica smuggling trade were included therein: and that, although the South Sea Company might not be so great gainers, yet their factors, agents, &c. brought home great fortunes, frequently in a very short space of time; and our said annual ship's cargoes kept out the supplying of the Spanish West Indies by the French, Dutch, &c. to our nation's great emolument.

On the other hand, it was asserted, and very generally believed, that the South Sea annual ship had occasioned a vast decrease of our annual exports to Spain, some said even so much as to one half of former exports, whilst at the same time our imports from Spain have been gradually increasing. That the superiority of our arms forced the Assiento-contract on Spain, against their inclinations, and on that score the Spanish court and traders have discouraged our manufactures formerly sent to Cadiz, and encouraged those of France, Flanders, and Holland. That of the cargoes of our said annual ship itself, a great deal consisted of the merchandize of foreign nations, and particularly of those of France and Holland, for assortments for the Spanish markets in America. That the Assiento-contract had enhanced the price of negroes for our own colonies. That our supplying the Spanish West Indies so regularly with negroes, had encouraged them to raise greater quantities of sugar and tobacco, to the detriment of our own. That the Spanish court having always effects of the South Sea Company in their American ports, had it constantly in their power to make seizures of those effects on various,

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1748 and often unjuſt pretences. Thus, in the year 1718, the company's loſs hereby was computed at about two hundred and twenty-five thouſand pounds ſterling; and, in 1727, to about half as much more; beſides the ſeizures by the war now concluded, and not yet juſtly computed; and the many other violences of the Spaniſh American governors and agents. Finally, as the company had undoubtedly, upon the whole, been loſers by their trade, as they had only four years more of their Aſſiento-term remaining, which Spain was determined not to renew, at leaſt on any promiſing terms; for theſe and ſuch-like reaſons, it was concluded by the Britiſh Court, to inſtruct her miniſter at Madrid, to obtain the beſt equivalent that could be procured for the remaining ſhort term of the Company's Aſſiento-contract: the reſult of which ſhall be ſhewn in its place.

By a ſtatute of the before-named twenty-firſt year of King George II. the fund of the orphans of the city of London was further prolonged and ſecured; by continuing the ſix-pence per chaldron or ton on coals and culm, which was to expire at Michaelmas 1750, by the fifth and ſixth of William and Mary, for thirty-five years longer, for the following purpoſes, viz.

Firſt, For raiſing three thouſand pounds yearly to the Mercers Company, for payment of their annuities and debts; and,

Secondly, The reſidue thereof for making part of the orphans fund; for the benefit of which alſo all the city manors, lands, &c. ſhall ſtand charged with the yearly ſum of two thouſand pounds over and above the eight thouſand pounds applied by former laws. "And as the fund "for raiſing the four per cent. intereſt on the orphans capital ſtock has produced a very large "ſurplus, including twenty-one thouſand ſeven hundred and thirty-five pounds ſeventeen "ſhillings and nine-pence due at Midſummer 1748, to make good the yearly ſum of two "thouſand pounds, which by a former act ought to have been raiſed on the perſonal eſtates "of the citizens, this ſurplus ſhall be applied to pay off the principal ſum of the orphans debt. "No orphan, under age, ſhall be paid off, ſo long as there ſhall be others, not orphans, or "not under age, to be paid off. The Chamberlain of London ſhall yearly, at Michaelmas, "lay before both houſes of Parliament an account of the ſurplus ariſen on the ſaid fund, what "has been paid off the principal, and what ſhall remain thereof unpaid off."

By a ſcheme, publiſhed in the year 1755, for building a new bridge acroſs the Thames from Blackfriars, the above-named ſurplus, on an average of five years to Midſummer 1755, amounted to four thouſand four hundred and forty-four pounds per annum; upon which the propoſer was for raiſing annuities for lives, which with twenty thouſand pounds more to be raiſed by voluntary ſubſcription, he ſays, would raiſe a ſum ſufficient to build ſuch a bridge. He alſo ſays, that the whole orphans debt amounted, at Midſummer 1755, to ſix hundred and eighty-ſeven thouſand two hundred and thirty-four pounds ſix ſhillings and ten-pence.

1749 We have ſeen, that ſeveral ſtatutes have been made at different times for the encouragement of the ſubjects of Great Britain to carry on and improve the whale fiſhery: and as the enlargement thereof would be of very great advantage to our trade and navigation, an act of Parliament of the twenty-ſecond year of King George II. cap. xlv. paſſed, "For the further En-"couragement and Enlargement thereof, and for continuing ſuch Laws as are therein men-"tioned relating thereto; and for the Naturalization of ſuch foreign Proteſtants as ſhall ſerve, "for the Time therein mentioned, on board ſuch Ships as ſhall be fitted out for the ſaid "Fiſhery. Whereby the ſeveral acts of Parliament in favour of that fiſhery were now fur-"ther continued: and over and above the allowance of twenty ſhillings per ton enacted by the "ſixth and continued by the thirteenth of King George II. a further bounty or allowance

"was

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1749 "was hereby granted of twenty shillings more per ton. Moreover," for the further encouragement of British colonies in America in this fishery, and for the promoting of their building of large ships there, "it was hereby enacted, that every ship built or fitted out in any of "those colonies of two hundred tons and upwards, and not being more than two years old "from the first building thereof, setting out from any port of the British American dominions "on the whale fishery, manned and navigated according to the navigation acts, and properly "fitted and furnished for that fishery, shall likewise be entitled to the said joint bounty of forty "shillings per ton, on their arrival from the said whale fishery in some port of Great Britain, "on certain further conditions therein stipulated. Foreign Protestants who shall serve three "years on board British whale-fishery ships, and shall take the usual qualification oaths, shall "be deemed natural-born subjects of Great Britain to all intents and purposes, (as far as "other foreign Protestants can so be) provided they shall have received the Sacrament of the "Lord's Supper in some British Protestant or reformed congregation, within three months "before his taking the said state oaths, and shall produce a certificate thereof signed by the "minister and two other witnesses. Yet such naturalized foreigner shall lose his naturalization, upon his being more than twelve months out of Great Britain or Ireland, or his "Majesty's plantations in America."

Whilst Benjamin Keene, the British minister, was treating with the court of Madrid of all the commercial differences between the two nations, our London merchants who traded to Cadiz handed about a manuscript paper, tending to prove, that the trade by the South Sea Company's annual ship directly to the Spanish West Indies was not so beneficial to the British nation in general, as was the former method of our sending goods directly to Cadiz, and thence with the register ships to the Spanish West Indies.

	Dollars.
"First, That paper supposes the whole out-set (ship and all) of a ship of six "hundred tons, with her cargo, from Cadiz to La Vera Cruz, to amount to	346,903
"Secondly, And the net returns from La Vera Cruz, deducting commission, "indulto's, &c. to be — — — —	717,134$\frac{1}{4}$
"Deduct the out-set — — — —	346,903
"And there remains the profit — — —	370,231$\frac{1}{4}$

Being near one hundred and seven per cent. profit. But, if insurances be deducted for those who would not run the risque of the sea, and which in time of peace would not exceed twelve per cent. then the remaining profit would be ninety-five per cent. But the chief advantage in this affair is supposed to arise from having both the ship and the King's licence one's own. For," says this author, "beside the considerable freights which such ships make, there are very great profits made by the privileged goods embarked thereon.

"Thirdly, Next, we have the particular assortments of such a cargo, with the several countries they are had from, viz.

	Dollars.
"I. Purchased chiefly at Cadiz, though not all Spanish merchandize, iron, wrought and unwrought, steel, wax, which must be whitened at Cadiz, Genoa paper, Brabant linen, Dutch knives, wines, brandy, and several ordinary stowage goods, amounting in all to — —	46,300
Carried over	46,000

"II. British

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		Dollars.
	Brought over	46,300
" II. British manufactures, viz. long-ells of various colours, says, shalloons, ' hair and worsted camblets, bays, Spanish cloths, worsted stockings, hats, and ' hardware; in all — — — —		115,500
" III. From Flanders; 'stamins, coarse says, Buratos, Lamparillas, Brabant linen, bleached, and Tournay ditto, unbleached —		15,800
" IV. From France; Britannias, broad and narrow, Rouen linen, bleached, dowlas, Morlaix linen, cambrics and lawns; amounting to —		49,350
" V. From Germany; Silesia and Hamburg linens, lawns, and several other sorts of linen, thread, calimancoes, &c. — —		22,200
" VI. From Spain, viz. Genoa womens stockings, Spanish double taffaty of various colours, and Spanish velvets — — —		21,000
" Total amount of the cargo, in dollars —		270,150

" In this assortment of goods for the Spanish West Indies, the British manufactures make " up one-third of the whole, which must go by the way of Cadiz, in case the Assiento of the " South Sea Company be laid aside, and by its being so laid aside, the value of all English " goods sent from Cadiz to the Spanish West Indies, will be increased to at least three mil-" lions of dollars, or above six hundred and seventy-five thousand pounds sterling, " yearly: " and supposing, in time of peace, nine millions value in goods to be annually sent from " Cadiz to the Spanish West Indies, exclusive of British manufactures," few of which, according to this author, were sent that way whilst the Assiento was in exercise, " and thereto " be added the said three millions in value of British manufactures, then the dispatches yearly " from Cadiz to the Spanish West Indies will be twelve millions of dollars. Now," continues this author, " allowing that the British merchants should, as easily they may, be one-" third concerned in the said trade, which on a moderate computation renders at least fifty " per cent. profit, or two millions of dollars more gained to our nation. This he thinks," just enough from his own premises, which however seem considerably exaggerated, " will be " found to exceed any advantage that has or ever can proceed from the Assiento, by which it " is notorious that the South Sea Company have lost very considerably: he therefore con-" cludes, that the commercial interest of Great Britain will be much benefited by the extinc-" tion of the Assiento. And, with respect to our political interest, whilst the said Assiento " subsists, it will prove a continual bone of contention between two nations whose mutual " interests are, more than any other two nations in Europe, to be closely united."

The government of Great Britain began now seriously to consider the great importance of the country and ports of Nova Scotia, which Captain Thomas Corom had, so long before as the year 1735, in his blunt but judicious memorial and petition to the Privy Council, so well represented to be in a most naked and unsettled condition; whereby the French had full leisure to make the most shameful and barefaced encroachments on our said undoubted province. It was now at length begun to be considered as the very key of North America. Upon the concluding of the peace of Aix la Chapelle therefore they sent out a large colony to a place having a fine harbour, where they settled and built a town, which they named Halifax, from the title of the noble lord who then and since presided so worthily at the Board of Trade and Plantations.

A.D. 1749 tions. The excellence of this province was now at length viewed in three different and advantageous lights, viz.

First, For its happy situation, as capable of always annoying and intercepting our enemies, and as a barrier for New England.

Secondly, For the great fishery of its adjacent seas. And,

Thirdly, For its infinite quantities of timber for the use of the royal navy, besides several new productions which may probably be hereafter raised therein.

Upon an allegation in certain pamphlets, &c. touching a north-west passage to the sea of Japan, that the Hudson's Bay Company had not hitherto encouraged any attempts for finding such a passage, and that a more extensive and beneficial trade might be carried on to the countries about Hudson's Bay if the trade were laid quite open; the House of Commons appointed a committee to enquire into those allegations, whilst petitions from Bristol, Liverpool, &c. were sent up, for laying that trade open. Nevertheless, upon that committee's full enquiry and examination of witnesses who had lived at Hudson's Bay, their report gave very little ground to hope for any great increase of commerce there, the country being very inhospitable on the sea coasts, yet it appeared, that the inland countries to the south and west of that bay abound with fine woods, wild fowl, wild beasts, river fish, &c. and that corn and pulse would grow thereon, were plantations made. That however, considering the company's capital, &c. it did not appear, that they had not, in general, done as well as could be expected for promoting the commerce there: that moreover it seemed very doubtful, whether, if the trade were laid quite open, it might not be gradually lost from us to the French of Canada. Neither did the committee's report give any great hope of a safe passage likely to be discovered in any practicable latitude.

One Mr. Robson indeed, who had been surveyor to the company, and who seemed now a disgusted evidence against them, tells us, "that the company's four small factories contained "only one hundred and thirty servants, and two small houses with only eight men in each.— "That their annual exports were about four thousand pounds in value; having, in time of "peace, three ships each of one hundred and fifty to two hundred tons burden, with two or "three small sloops stationed in the bay.—That there are incontestable evidences of rich copper "and lead mines, yet the company gives no encouragement for working them, nor for their "servants going into the inland countries.—That the probability of a passage is further "strengthened from the late discovery of bays, inlets, and broken lands, the western ends of "which are not yet discovered, there having been no rivers as yet observed on the north-"west coast.—That the true reason of the company's not acting for the general benefit of the "nation is, because they have had no legal," *i. e.* parliamentary, "right to their exclusive "trade since the year 1698, at which time the act of Parliament expired, which confirmed "their charter for seven years. If therefore," says Mr. Robson, "at this period, the least "evidence had been suffered to transpire, that the climate is very habitable, the soil rich and "fruitful, fit for both corn and cattle, rich in mines, and the fisheries capable of great im-"provement; that, moreover, the trade may even be extended by means of a naval passage, "or at least by a short land passage, to the western ocean, had proper experiments been made "thereof at that time, and that the legislature would have taken the right into its own hands, "and would have settled the country, and laid the trade open for the benefit of Britain.— "That the company therefore have contented themselves with dividing amongst only about "one hundred persons, a large profit upon a small capital. And have not only endeavoured

'to

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1749 " to keep the true ſtate of the trade and country an impenetrable ſecret, but have alſo induſ-" triouſly propagated the worſt impreſſions of them. He therefore propoſed,

" Firſt, That for preventing thoſe vaſt territories from falling into the hands of the French, " from Canada, the legiſlature would purchaſe the company's right to ſuch lands as they " have a legal title to,—and to lay the trade open.

" Secondly, To ſettle the rivers and adjoining coaſts with European Proteſtants.

" Thirdly, To civilize the natives."

We have handled this ſubject ſo often and ſo fully, as to have quite exhauſted it; and we ſhall therefore leave it to the judgment of the public, after obſerving, that the company's opponents have, at different times, advanced ſeveral things in favour of the probability of a paſſage, and alſo in behalf of the goodneſs of the lands and climate, which ſeem too much exaggerated; and in this uncertain ſtate the ſubject may poſſibly remain to the end of time.

In this twenty-third year of King George the Second, in the year 1749, a very great addition of near ſix hundred thouſand pounds per annum, was begun to be gradually made to the ſinking fund, by an act of Parliament, for reducing the ſeveral annuities then bearing four per cent. to the ſeveral rates of intereſt therein mentioned, viz.

	£.	s.	d.
I. The principal ſum payable at the Exchequer, of —	312,000	0	0
II. Capital Bank-ſtock — — —	8,486,800	0	0
III. Certain annuities transferable at the Bank —	18,402,472	0	10
IV. Capital ſtock of the Eaſt India Company — —	3,200,000	0	0
V. Capital South Sea ſtock, and old and new South Sea annuity ſtock	27,302,203	5	6½
Total.	57,703,475	6	4½

And it being the united opinion of the King and Parliament, that nothing can ſo effectually contribute to make trade flouriſh, as the leſſening the public debts and incumbrances, conſiſtent with juſtice and public faith; it was therefore hereby enacted, " That all the pro-" prietors of the ſaid public debts, incurred before Michaelmas 1749, who ſhall, on or before " the twenty-eighth of February 1749-50, ſubſcribe their names, or ſignify their conſent to " accept of an intereſt of three per cent. per annum, to commence from the twenty-fifth of " December 1757, ſhall, in lieu of their preſent intereſt, receive four per cent. per annum, " until the twenty-fifth of December 1750, and from thence three pounds ten ſhillings per " cent. until the twenty-fifth of December 1757; and no part of the ſame, except what is " due to the Eaſt India Company, ſhall be liable to be redeemed until the ſaid twenty-fifth of " December 1757."

This is what was called the firſt ſubſcription, becauſe, as we ſhall ſee, all the proprietors of the above-named debts did not come into this propoſed ſubſcription within the time limited by this act, although the major part of them did.

And although the ſecond ſubſcription to that reduction was not enacted till the ſpring of the year 1750, yet, for connection's ſake, we ſhall here give the ſubſtance of an act of this ſame ſeſſion, For giving further time to ſuch of the proprietors of the before-named annuities to ſubſcribe the ſame upon terms therein mentioned, and for redeeming, that is, paying off

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1749 the principal sums of such of the said annuities as shall not be so subscribed: and for empowering the East India Company to raise certain sums by transferable annuities.

It recites, "That great part of those before-named annuities had been subscribed on the "terms of the first-named statute, it was therefore hereby enacted, that such proprietors as "have not so subscribed, and who shall, on or before the thirtieth of May 1750, accept of an "interest of three per cent. to commence from the twenty-fifth of December 1755, (in the "mean time to have the same terms, in other respects, as the former subscribers have) "shall not be redeemable till the said twenty-fifth of December 1755, may subscribe on or "before the said thirtieth of May 1750: and such as shall not subscribe on or before that day, "shall be redeemed and paid off." Thus the said second subscribers had a reduction of their interest from three and a half per cent. to three per cent. two years sooner than those of the first subscription; and such as remained determined not to subscribe at all, who however were not very many, were paid off their principal sums out of the sinking fund.

Lastly, the East India Company were empowered, by consent of the commissioners of the Treasury, if they subscribed their three million two hundred thousand pound stock, and their one million annuities, by the thirtieth of May 1750, to borrow any sums not exceeding four million two hundred thousand pounds, by sale of annuities, viz. three million two hundred thousand pounds, after the several rates of interest, in the terms of this second subscription, and one million more at the rate of three per cent. per annum: with which the East India Company accordingly complied.

For promoting of the silk manufacture of Great Britain, an act of Parliament of the said twenty-third of King George the Second, passed, "whereby the duties till now payable on "raw-silk imported from China by the East India Company, were reduced to the same duty "payable on raw-silk from Italy."

In the said twenty-third of King George the Second, For the encouraging of the Growth and Culture of Raw-silk in his Majesty's Colonies or Plantations in America, it was enacted, "That as it will greatly tend to the increase and improvement of the silk manufactures of this "kingdom to encourage the growth of raw-silk in his Majesty's dominions in America, pro- "perly certified to be really raw-silk of the said growth and culture, the same may be impor- "ted duty-free into the port of London, in ships navigated and manned as by the navigation "acts." And as its culture has since visibly, though very gradually, increased there, and more "particularly in Carolina and Georgia, it seems now probable, that in a reasonable space of time those two provinces may hereafter have the honour of being denominated Silk Colonies, provided they will steadily proceed in the said culture.

From Koningsberg, the capital of what was formerly named Ducal Prussia, but now the capital of the kingdom of Prussia, by the common newspapers of the fourth of January, 1749-50, we learned, that the commerce of that port had been more considerable during the year 1749, than in any of the preceding ones, viz. that six hundred and seventy-one ships had arrived there during the year 1749, from the North, England, and Holland, with all kinds of merchandize, and a great quantity of wines, brandies, &c. from France, Spain, the Rhine, and the Moselle: on the other hand, six hundred and eighty-two ships had, within the said year, failed from thence, laden with corn, hemp, hides, boards, masts, &c.

The eminent author of a pamphlet, in p. 34, under the title of Further Considerations upon a Reduction of the Land-Tax, said to be written by R. N. Esq. gives the public a re-

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1749 markable account of the gradual increafe of the tonnage of Great Britain's navy-royal, in three different periods, viz.

	Tons.
In the year 1715, it was — —	167,596
In the year 1727, it was — —	170,862
And in 1749, it was increafed to —	228,215

An act of Parliament, of this fame year, For enlarging and maintaining the Harbour of Ramfgate, &c. gave great hopes to many people, that thereby our mercantile fhipping would find a much fafer retreat, in cafe of ftorms, &c. than any we have hitherto enjoyed on the coafts of Kent and Suffex. Its preamble fets forth, "That frequent loffes of the lives and "properties of his Majefty's fubjects happen in the Downs, for want of a harbour between "the North and South Forelands, the greateft part of the fhips employed in the trade of this "nation being under a neceffity, at going out upon, as well as in returning from their voy-"ages, to pafs through the Downs, and frequently by contrary winds being detained there a "long time, during which they, efpecially the outward-bound fhips, are expofed to violent "ftorms and dangerous gales of wind, without having any fufficient harbour to lie in, or re-"treat into, or from whence they can receive any affiftance. And as a harbour may be made "at the town of Ramfgate, convenient for the reception of fhips of and under three hundred "tons burthen, and from whence larger fhips in diftrefs in the Downs may be fupplied with "pilots, anchors, cables, and other affiftance and neceffaries: and by the fmaller fhips taking "fhelter in this harbour, the larger fhips may take the anchorage which at prefent is occu-"pied by the fmaller, and by that means their anchors will be fixed in more holding ground, "and the fhips not be fo expofed to the ocean."—A great number therefore of honourable and eminent perfons are hereby appointed truftees for enlarging, &c. the faid harbour of Ramfgate, and a duty of fix-pence per ton on all mercantile fhipping was hereby laid for this end, and two very fine piers have been run out a great way into the fea, at an immenfe ex-pence; which, however, has not hitherto anfwered the fanguine expectations of utility which had been formed by the projectors of this ftupendous work.

Doctor Bufching, in his New Geography of Ruffia, gives us the amount of the value, in the year 1749, of the entire exports of Peterfburgh with all the world, being three million one hundred and eighty-four thoufand three hundred and twenty-two rubles, and their imports to be two millions nine hundred and forty-two thoufand two hundred and forty-two; whereby Ruffia, or rather Peterfburgh, had a balance in its favour of two hundred and forty-two thoufand and eighty only: but with refpect to Great Britain alone, it ftood thus, viz.

	Rubles.
Exports thither from Peterfburgh, — —	2,245,573
Imports from Great Britain, — —	1,012,209
Balance againft Great Britain and in favour of Ruffia, was	1,233,364

Or, at four fhillings and two-pence fterling per ruble, is two hundred and fifty-fix thoufand nine hundred and fifty pounds fixteen fhillings and eight-pence fterling.

Hence, if that author was rightly informed, it appears,

Firft, That Ruffia's commerce with Britain, was not only more gainful to the former than all the reft of Europe, but,

2 Secondly,

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1749 Secondly, That Russia was this year a loser by all the rest of Europe of no less than nine hundred and ninety-one thousand two hundred and eighty-four rubles, being the difference of what they gained by Britain alone, and the said two hundred and forty-two thousand and eighty gained from all Europe, Britain included.

Thirdly, We hereby learn, how much it is Russia's interest to cultivate the friendship of Great Britain; and we may add, how much it is the interest of the latter to lessen the said balance as soon as possible, as well as that with the other northern countries, of which we wish we had an equally distinct and adequate account.

1750 At the opening of the session of the British Parliament at the close of the year 1749, the King, in his speech, having recommended to their consideration the improvement of the fishery, the House of Commons thereupon appointed a committee to enquire into the state, and to consider of means for improving the white-herring, cod, &c. fisheries. And, a meeting being held in the city, of many eminent gentlemen and merchants, in the beginning of the year 1750, (new stile) it was proposed to form a joint-stock of five hundred thousand pounds, provided the legislature would grant an encouragement of four per cent. per annum on that capital, when employed in the following manner, viz.

"I. Upon the payment of three hundred thousand pounds thereof into the Bank of England, the interest thereon shall commence, but should not be payable until one hundred thousand pounds thereof should be actually employed in the said fishery.

"II. That upon payment of the remaining two hundred thousand pounds into the Bank, the interest thereon should commence in like manner, but not be payable until another one hundred thousand pounds should be further employed in the fishery." On this occasion, several pamphlets and newspapers attempted to demonstrate the feasibility of Great Britain's gaining from the Dutch the bulk of the white herring fishery. Hereupon an act of Parliament, passed in the same session, For the encouragement of the White Herring Fishery, the preamble whereof sets forth,

"That the carrying on and improvement thereof are of great consequence to these kingdoms, tending to great advantage to our trade and navigation, and for employing and providing for great numbers of industrious poor, provided the same could be carried on with a sufficient stock, under proper regulations, and that reasonable encouragement be given to such persons as are willing to carry on the said fisheries.

"For the encouragement therefore of such persons, and for the better regulation of the said trade, and for preventing frauds and impositions in the management thereof, it was enacted, that the King, by letters-patent, may incorporate a number of gentlemen, herein named, and all others who shall be entitled to any share in the capital sum of five hundred thousand pounds, to be one body politic and corporate, by the name of The Society of the Free British Fishery; for the term of twenty-one years; during which time they are every three years to elect a governor, president, vice-president, council, and other officers,—who may make bye-laws for the management of the trade,—may direct what seals or marks shall be put on the barrels or casks of their fish, for the counterfeiting whereof, a penalty of five hundred pounds shall be incurred for each offence. This corporation may make calls on their members; the first and second payments to be each ten per cent. of their subscriptions; and the subsequent payments to be by the direction of a general court of the society. In failure of answering of such calls, the society may dispose, after thirty days previous notice in the London Gazette, of so much of the stock of such defaulter as shall produce the sum

1750 " so called in. Three per cent. per annum, upon every hundred pounds actually employed " in the said fishery, shall be paid to the proprietors of the said stock for fourteen years to " come, by the receiver general of the customs, half yearly. The society shall employ one " hundred thousand pounds at least, within eighteen months after the date of such subscrip- " tion; and accounts of the monies which shall be so employed, shall be annually laid before " the Parliament. And if loss shall arise by any year's adventure, and there should be gain " by succeeding years, the gain shall be employed to make good the vessels and fishing stock " to the full value of the said original sum of one hundred thousand pounds before any divi- " dend shall be made.

" A bounty of thirty shillings per ton shall also be annually paid out of the customs, for " fourteen years to come, to the owners of all decked vessels from twenty to eighty tons " burden, which shall be built after the commencement of this act, for the use of, and fitted " out and employed in the said fisheries, whether by this society, or any other persons: such " vessel to be a decked buss or vessel, built in Great Britain, and shall proceed thereon from " some port of Great Britain, manned and navigated as the law directs;—and with a sufficient " quantity of fishing nets and stores:—certificates to be produced before the collector and " comptroller of the respective British ports, that it is their firm purpose to proceed therein, " either to Brassa Sound in Shetland, and be at the rendezvous of the fishery there, on or be- " fore the eleventh of June, and shall not shoot or wet their nets before the thirteenth of the " same month, and shall continue fishing amongst the shoals of herrings, as they move south- " ward, to the first of October; or they shall proceed to Campbell-town in Argyleshire, and " be at the rendezvous of the fisheries there, on or before the first of September, and continue " fishing to the thirty-first of December, unless they shall sooner have compleated their lading " of fish;—shall keep a journal of their proceedings,—of the quantity of fish they shall dis- " patch away to foreign markets in their tenders before they come into port,—and of the par- " ticular quantity they shall bring into port with them;—to carry out twelve Winchester " bushels of salt for every last of fish she is capable of holding, to be barrelled up in new bar- " rels—shall have two fleets of tanned nets for every vessel of seventy tons. Every vessel of " twenty tons shall have six men, and for vessels of greater burden one man more for every " five tons.

" It is expressed, that this act shall not exclude any of the King's subjects, though not of " this society, from fishing for white herrings, cods, &c. in the same manner they might " have done before this act. Any number of persons who shall subscribe ten thousand pounds " or more into the society, and shall carry on the fishery under their own management, and " on their own account of profit and loss, conformably to the directions of this act, ex- " cept their being obliged to use the marks of the society, and from the port named by them; " if they do subscribe under the name of the fishing chamber of such city, town, or port re- " spectively, and shall send their account of monies expended in the said fisheries, attested by " three of the committee appointed for managing the matters of the said chamber, and be also " signed by their accountant, making oath of its being a true account, which account to be " transmitted to the society in London, whose accountant shall enter the same as a sum ex- " pended in the said fisheries by the society, in the account which he shall deliver to the com- " missioners of the customs, as aforesaid, the said chamber shall receive three per cent. as the " society do for other monies employed by them, after deducting the necessary charges arising " from

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1750 "from the receipt of the same. Such chambers as shall fish on their own account shall not "have any profit or loss, arising from the trade of the society."

Pursuant to this statute, his Majesty's charter of incorporation was granted, being dated on the eleventh of October 1750. And,

Although the success of this most public spirited undertaking has not hitherto answered the expectations of the worthy promoters of it, in favour of whose generous zeal too much can hardly be said, yet it is to be hoped, and greatly to be wished, that by further trials they may at length succeed. It is indeed extremely difficult to beat another nation out of a trade they have so long prospered in, even with the above great encouragement from the public, and more especially so frugal a people as the Dutch, who can content themselves with smaller gains than other nations, and carry on the fishery every one on his own private bottom. We shall therefore suspend any additional remarks, and only join in the universal wish of all true Britons for it success. Lastly, by a statute of the thirtieth of the said King, in the year 1757, instead of thirty shillings per ton, the same is increased to fifty shillings per ton, bounty, on all the ships built and employed by this Fishery Company, with certain regulations relating to their nets, &c.

The many difficulties started by the court of Spain, against the carrying on of the South Sea Company's Assiento trade; the oppressions of the Spanish officers and governors in the West Indies, the frauds too obviously committed, on the other hand, by that company's agents in those parts, in spite of all the company's regulations and restrictions, and the complaints of the British merchants trading to Cadiz, seemed now all to concur, at both courts, for putting a final period to a trade which, without any substantial benefit to Great Britain, had given insuperable umbrage to the Court of Madrid: so that both courts were the more easily brought into the treaty of Madrid, concluded on the fifth of October, (*N. S.*) 1750, viz.

"The ambassadors of both Kings, at the treaty of Aix-la-Chapelle, in the year 1748, having then agreed to regulate, at a proper time and place, the equivalent which Spain should "give in consideration of the non-enjoyment of the remaining years of the said Assiento of "negroes, and of the annual ship granted to Great Britain, their said Britannic and Catholic "Majesties have now agreed on the following articles, viz.

"I. His Britannic Majesty yields to his Catholic Majesty his right to the enjoyment of the "Assiento of negroes, and of the annual ship, during the four years stipulated by the said treaty "of Aix-la-Chapelle.

"II. His Britannic Majesty, in consideration of a compensation of one hundred thousand "pounds sterling, which his Catholic Majesty promises to pay, either at Madrid or London, "to the said company, within three months at latest, yields to his Catholic Majesty all that "may be due to that company for balance of accounts, or arising in any manner whatsoever "from the said Assiento: so that the said compensation shall be esteemed a full and entire satisfaction on the part of his Catholic Majesty, and shall extinguish, from this present time, "for the future and for ever, all right, pretension, or demand, which might be formed in consequence of the said Assiento, or annual ship, directly or indirectly, on the part of his Britannic Majesty, or on that of the said company.

"III. The Catholic King yields to his Britannic Majesty all his pretensions or demands in "consequence of the said Assiento and annual ship, as well with regard to the articles already

"liquidated

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1750 " liquidated, as to thoſe which may be either eaſy or difficult to liquidate, ſo that no mention " can ever be made of them hereafter on either ſide.

" IV. His Catholic Majeſty conſents, that the Britiſh ſubjects ſhall not be bound to pay " higher or other duties, or upon other evaluations for goods which they ſhall carry into or " out of the different ports of his Catholic Majeſty, than thoſe paid on the ſame goods in the " time of King Charles II. of Spain, ſettled by the cedulas and ordonnances of that King or his " predeceſſors. And although the favour or allowance, called *Pie del Fardo*, be not founded " upon any royal ordonnance, nevertheleſs, his Catholic Majeſty declares, that it ſhall be ob- " ſerved now, and for the future, as an inviolable law: and all the above-mentioned duties " ſhall be exacted and levied, now and for the future, with the ſame advantages and favours " to the ſaid ſubjects.

" V. His Catholic Majeſty allows the ſaid ſubjects," *i. e.* the Britiſh ſubjects, " to take " and gather ſalt in the iſland of Tortudos, in the Weſt Indies, without any hindrance what- " ſoever, as they did in the time of the ſaid King Charles II.

" VI. He alſo conſents that the ſaid ſubjects ſhall not pay any where higher or other duties " than thoſe which his Catholic Majeſty's ſubjects pay in the ſame place.

" VII. His Catholic Majeſty grants, that the ſaid ſubjects ſhall enjoy all the rights, pri- " leges, franchiſes, exemptions, and immunities whatſoever, which they enjoyed before the " laſt war, by virtue of cedulas or royal ordonnances, and by the articles of the treaty of peace " and commerce made at Madrid in the year 1667;—and they ſhall be treated in Spain in the " ſame manner as the moſt favoured nation; and conſequently, no nation ſhall pay leſs du- " ties upon wool or other merchandizes, which they ſhall bring into or carry out of Spain, " by land," (this clauſe more eſpecially reſpects the French nation) " than the ſaid ſubjects " ſhall pay upon the ſame merchandizes, which they bring in or carry out by ſea. And all " the rights, privileges, franchiſes, exemptions, and immunities, which ſhall be granted or " permitted to any nation whatever, ſhall alſo be granted and permitted to the ſaid ſubjects: " and his Britannic Majeſty conſents, that the ſame be granted and permitted to the ſubjects " of Spain, in his Britannic Majeſty's kingdoms.

" VIII. His Catholic Majeſty promiſes to uſe all poſſible endeavours, on his part, to abo- " liſh all innovations for the future, which may have been introduced into commerce. And " his Britannic Majeſty likewiſe promiſes to uſe all poſſible endeavours to aboliſh all innova- " tions, and to forbear them for the future.

" IX. Their Britannic and Catholic Majeſties confirm, by the preſent treaty, the laſt treaty " of Aix-la-Chapelle, and all the other treaties therein confirmed, in all their articles and " clauſes; excepting thoſe which have been derogated from by the preſent treaty: as likewiſe " the treaty of commerce concluded at Utrecht, in the year 1713; thoſe articles excepted " which are contrary to the preſent treaty, which ſhall be aboliſhed and of no force; and, " namely, the three articles of the ſaid treaty, commonly called explanatory.

" X. All the reciprocal differences, rights, demands, and pretenſions, which may have " ſubſiſted between the two crowns of Great Britain and Spain, in which no other nation " whatever has any part, intereſt, or right of intervention, being thus accommodated and ex- " tinguiſhed by this particular treaty; the two ſaid moſt ſerene Kings engage themſelves mu- " tually to the punctual execution of this treaty of reciprocal compenſation."

This is truly a moſt definitive treaty, in the ſtricteſt ſenſe, as it relates purely to differ- ences between Great Britain and Spain, without any relation to, or connection with, any other

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1750 other nation: and accordingly, it has hitherto, till very lately, been well obſerved on both ſides: and hereby a period was abſolutely put to all foreign commerce whatever of the South Sea Company.

In this ſame year 1750, the twenty-third of King George II. a British act of Parliament paſſed, To encourage the Importation of Pig and Bar Iron from his Majeſty's Colonies in America, and to prevent the Erection of any Mill or other Engine for ſlitting or rolling of Iron, or any plating Forge to work with a Tilt-hammer; or any Furnace for making of Steel in any of the ſaid Colonies.

The title of this ſtatute, which alone is ſufficient in and for our general deſign, plainly ſhews, how jealous our legiſlature was, at that time, to prevent our greatly-increaſing northern-colony people from going far into manufactures, which might interfere with thoſe of their mother-country. Nevertheleſs, as our continental colonies are increaſing faſt in people, ſurely ſome latitude muſt and will be hereafter allowed in this reſpect; as the proportionable increaſe of our people there, will, undoubtedly, occaſion a like or greater increaſe of our general commerce thither.

By a ſtatute of the thirtieth of King George the Second, this act of the twenty-third of this King, for importing of bar iron from America into the port of London, was extended to all the ports of Great Britain: and ſome clauſes, in the firſt named act, of leſs importance, are hereby repealed.

In the ſame twenty-third of King George II. an act of Parliament paſſed, For extending and improving the Trade to Africa.

The preamble of this ſtatute juſtly remarks, "That the trade to and from Africa being very "advantageous to Great Britain, and neceſſary for the ſupplying her plantations and colonies "with a ſufficient number of negroes, at reaſonable rates, ought, for that reaſon, to be free "and open to all his Majeſty's ſubjects: it was therefore enacted, that it ſhall be lawful for "all the King's ſubjects to trade to and from any place in Africa, between the port of Sallee, "in South Barbary, and the Cape of Good Hope, without any reſtraint whatſoever, except "as herein after expreſſed, viz.

"I. All his Majeſty's ſubjects, who ſhall trade to and from Africa, between Cape Blanco "and the Cape of Good Hope, ſhall, for ever hereafter, be deemed a body corporate "and politic, by the name of, The Company of Merchants trading to Africa, with perpetual ſucceſſion, and a common ſeal; and may ſue and be ſued, &c. as other corporations.

"II. All the British forts, ſettlements, and factories, on the coaſt of Africa, from Cape "Blanco to the Cape of Good Hope, and all coaſts, iſlands, rivers, regions, &c. within the "ſaid limits, which are now claimed or poſſeſſed by the Royal African Company of England, or which may hereafter be in the poſſeſſion of the company hereby eſtabliſhed, "ſhall, from the paſſing of an act for diveſting the African Company of their charter, "forts, and all their other property on the coaſt of Africa, be abſolutely veſted in the "new Company, eſtabliſhed by this act, and their ſucceſſors, to the intent that the ſaid "forts, &c. ſhall be employed only for the protection, encouragement, and defence of the "ſaid trade.

"III. Yet this new company ſhall not trade to or from Africa in their corporate capacity, "neither ſhall they have any joint or transferable ſtock, nor ſhall they borrow money on "their common ſeal.

"VI. The

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1750 "IV. The direction of the affairs of this new company shall be by a committee of nine "persons, to be chosen annually; to meet as often as shall be necessary, in some place within "the city of London, the majority of whom being assembled, shall have full power to make "orders for the governing and improving the forts, factories, &c.—So as no orders nor regu- "lations of theirs shall lay any restraint whatsoever on the trade or traders, contrary to the "intent of this act.

"V. Such as intend to trade to Africa, and who shall, on or before the thirtieth of June, "1750, pay forty shillings each to the Chamberlain of London for their freedom of this com- "pany, are impowered to meet at Guildhall, and choose three persons,—and, at Bristol, "shall have paid forty shillings into the hands of the Clerk of the Merchants Hall of that city, "to choose three persons,—and the like at Liverpool, for choosing of three persons:—and "the nine persons, so chosen, shall be the first annual committee.

"VI. In all future elections, the committee shall be nominated on the third of July yearly, "in manner following, viz. three shall be nominated by the freemen of the said company ad- "mitted in London, and three by each of the other two places, viz. Bristol and Liverpool. "And the freemen of this company, in each of the said three places, may choose other com- "mittee-men in the place of such as shall die or be removed, or who shall refuse to act.—And "if they, or any of the three places, neglect to choose such, then the remainder, though less "in number than nine, may act as the committee, until next year's election.—In case of an "equality of voices at any election, the Lord Mayor of London, and the Mayors of Bristol "and Liverpool, respectively, shall determine which of such persons shall be the committee- "man.

"From and after the thirtieth of June 1750, any other of his Majesty's subjects, who shall "trade to or from Africa, shall be admitted freemen of the said company at London, Bristol, or "Liverpool, upon payment of forty shillings as aforesaid; but shall not vote at the election "of committee-men until one year after their admission.—The said freedom-money of forty "shillings shall be accounted for to the annual committee.—No person shall be a committee "man above three years successively.—The committee may invest the said money in their "hands, in the purchase of goods and stores for Africa, there to be applied for the sole use, "preservation, &c. of their forts and settlements, and for the wages, salaries, &c. of their "officers, &c. employed there; but the committee shall not export from Africa, any ne- "groes or other goods in return; nor shall, in any other manner, carry on a trade to or "from Africa:—and an account of the committee's receipts and payments shall be kept, "and lie open at their office in London, to be perused, gratis, by any member of the com- "pany.

"The Commissioners for Trade and Plantations may remove any of the committee-men, "or the officers and servants of this company, upon misbehaviour.—And the committee shall "annually render an account of their transactions to the said Board of Trade and Plantations, "or oftener, if required.

"The committee, out of the monies they shall receive, may deduct annually eight hundred "pounds, for defraying, in the first place, the salaries of their clerks, &c. at the said three "places, and all other charges of management; and the residue of that sum shall be divided "among themselves, as a compensation for their trouble.

"The committee's accounts shall be annually examined upon oath by the Cursitor Baron "of the Exchequer, and they shall lay a copy of such accounts, &c. before the Parliament in

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1750 " every ſeſſion, as alſo before the general meetings of their own members, held in London, " Briſtol, and Liverpool.

" VII. The forts, warehouſes, &c. of this company, ſhall, at all times, be free to all his " Majeſty's ſubjects, to be uſed as warehouſes for depoſiting of gun-powder, gold, elephants " teeth, wax, gums, and drugs, and no other goods: and ſhall alſo be free and open in caſe " of neceſſity or danger, to all his Majeſty's ſubjects, for the ſafety of their perſons and effects. " Three Maſters of the Court of Chancery, whereof the Accountant General of that court to " be one, ſhall be commiſſioners for examining and allowing the claims of the creditors of the " Royal African Company; after which that company ſhall be diveſted of their charter, and " be diſſolved."

Thus this very conſiderable branch of Britiſh commerce again aſſumed a new appearance, after having paſſed, as we have ſhewn, through ſeveral other different conſtitutions, and various conditions. What has by this act been eſtabliſhed, remains ſtill in being, and with general approbation; though there are not wanting ſome, who ſtill think, that ſo important a trade ought to be under a ſtricter government, and even in a joint-ſtock corporation, as in former times: of which opinion, time and the experience of the traders to that extended coaſt, will determine the validity.

1751 In this year 1751, Doctor William Douglas, of Boſton, in New England, publiſhed there, his Summary Hiſtorical and Political of the firſt Planting, &c. of the Britiſh Continent Colonies of America: in which he gives a very juſt, though conciſe view of the entire country, uſually known by the general name of New England, as at preſent divided into four diſtinct or ſeparate governments, viz.

Firſt, The firſt and principal one, known by the name of the province of the Maſſachuſet's Bay, of which Boſton is the capital city, contains two hundred thouſand white inhabitants: the government of which province is in the crown, but the property is in the repreſentatives of the people.

The ſecond province is Connecticut, containing one hundred thouſand white people.

Thirdly, Rhode Iſland, containing thirty thouſand white people; in both which laſt-named provinces, the government and property are in the repreſentatives of the people.

Fourthly, New Hampſhire, in which both the government and property are in the crown, it contains twenty-four thouſand white inhabitants.

The total white people in all New England, then was, three hundred and fifty-four thouſand.

Doctor Douglas had lived many years in that country, and is allowed, by all we have converſed with from thence, to have given a true account of the number of people in New England at that period.

We have, in its place, ſhewn, that the Danes had anciently a colony in the country, by them properly called Groenland, *i. e.* Greenland, and by others Old Greenland, lying northweſt of Norway, being a large extended country, ſituated north of Davis's Streights, in a very inhoſpitable climate, and, for aught we yet know, may be properly a part of North America. The ſaid lamentable country, however, we find, by an edict of Frederic V. King of Denmark, dated at Copenhagen, the twenty-ſixth of March, 1751, is again re-ſettled by Denmark: the ſaid edict " expreſsly prohibiting all perſons, as well natives as foreigners, from " reſorting to the colonies eſtabliſhed by us" ſays the King, " in our country of Greenland, " which we have granted to a general and privileged company excluſively; we being heredi- " tary lord of that country, upon pain of ſeizure and confiſcation againſt all ſuch as ſhall

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1751 " trade thither in prejudice of the ſaid company's right.—The limits ſhall extend fifteen " miles on both ſides of each colony, including therein all the places lying between the weſt- " ern iſles and the bay called in the maps Blackbird's Bay." This ſettlement is chiefly intended for the whale and ſeal fiſhery, and for peltry. Of its progreſs we may poſſibly learn more hereafter.

The South Sea Company having propoſed to the government, to accept of an intereſt of four per cent. on their capital ſtock of three million ſix hundred and ſixty-two thouſand ſeven hundred and eighty-four pounds eight ſhillings and ſix pence until Chriſtmas 1757, and then to ſtand reduced to three pounds per cent. per annum; provided, that the manner of the receipt from the Exchequer, and the charges of management upon the preſent old and new South Sea annuities, and on their ſaid capital ſtock, be continued as they now are: an act of Parliament, in conſequence thereof, paſſed in the twenty-fourth year of King George II. For reducing the ſame accordingly, upon thoſe Terms; and for preventing of Frauds committed by the Officers and Servants of the ſaid Company, viz.

" I. After Chriſtmas 1757, their ſaid capital ſtock ſhall be reduced to three per cent. until redemption thereof; in full diſcharge of all demands of the Company on the King of " Spain, on account of the Aſſiento or annual ſhip, or on any account whatſoever, over and " above the ſum of one hundred thouſand pounds, paid purſuant to treaty.

" II. The company ſhall continue to receive from the Exchequer, out of the funds appro- " priated for that purpoſe, what monies ſhall from time to time become due for the intereſt " thereof, and charges of management, upon ſuch part of the old and new South Sea annui- " ties as are not redeemed, and on their capital ſtock: and all the rights and exemptions with " regard to the redemption of their ſaid capitals, ſhall be confirmed in the ſame manner as " they now ſtand, and enjoy the ſame.

" III. If any officer or ſervant of the ſaid company, intruſted with any note, bill, dividend " warrant, bond, deed, or ſecurity, money, or other effects belonging to the company, or " to other perſons, depoſited with the ſaid company, or with him as an officer or ſervant of " the ſaid company, ſhall ſecrete, embezzle, or run away with the ſame, and be convicted " thereof, in due form of law; he ſhall be deemed guilty of felony, and ſuffer death as a felon, " without benefit of clergy."

Thus, for a national benefit, viz. for prevention of future diſputes between Great Britain and Spain, this company was forced to be hereby legally debarred from all future claims on the court of Spain, though certainly very conſiderable and equitable ones, purſuant to the before-named treaty of Madrid, whereby our King agreed to accept of the ſaid one hundred thouſand pounds for the company, in full compenſation for all their conſiderable loſſes. So that between their very great loſſes ſuſtained by their ill-fated Aſſiento contract, and by the national undertaking of the whale fiſhery, that company may truly and impartially be ſaid to merit not only or barely the compaſſion, but even the particular regard of the public.

By Dr. Buſching's new Geography of Ruſſia, it appears, that the trade of Peterſburg was conſiderably increaſed: for, in the year 1744, the number of ſhips arriving in that port from England, Holland, France, Norway, Denmark, Lubeck, Hamburg, Stetin, Roſtock, Kiel, Pruſſia, Sweden, Dantzic, &c, amounted to two hundred and ſixty-four; but, in the courſe of this year 1751, they amounted to two hundred and ninety ſhips.

By a ſtatute of this ſame twenty-fourth year of King George II. For enabling his Majeſty to raiſe the ſeveral Sums of Money therein mentioned, by Exchequer Bills, &c. the treaſury

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1751 was impowered to iſſue two millions two hundred and ſeventy-ſix thouſand eight hundred and ninety-three pounds eleven ſhillings and ſeven pence, being the total principal ſum remaining payable upon the unſubſcribed old and new South Sea annuities, (after deducting forty-eight thouſand one hundred and twenty-nine pounds ſeventeen ſhillings and four-pence) by this act directed to be ſubſcribed into ſaid annuities; towards redeeming the ſaid annuities :—any part of which ſum might be re-placed, by ſuch as were truſtees for certain purpoſes, as far as ſuch monies would go at the current market price, either in the ſaid annuities, or in other purchaſes, public or private.—And whereas ſeveral perſons, not being timely appriſed of the notice given for ſubſcribing in their ſeveral annuities, being in the King's colonies in America, and other foreign parts, &c. the ſums which, on the twenty-eighth of February 1749, ſhould be entitled to the benefit of thoſe ſubſcriptions, amounting to twelve thouſand two hundred and ten pounds two ſhillings and one penny in new South Sea annuities, and thirteen thouſand four hundred and forty-three pounds fourteen ſhillings and three pence in old South Sea annuities, they ſhall be entitled to the vote of the Houſe of Commons of the twenty-firſt of March 1749, as amply as if they had ſeverally accepted the ſaid terms on or before the thirtieth of May 1750.

On Wedneſday the twenty-ſecond of May 1751, the ever-famous act of the Britiſh legiſlature, of the twenty-fourth year of King George the Second, received the royal aſſent, For regulating the Commencement of the Year, and for correcting the Calendar now in Uſe.—*i. e* For aboliſhing the old-ſtile, and eſtabliſhing the new-ſtile, already in uſe in moſt parts of Chriſtendom.

Its preamble ſets forth, " That the legal ſupputation of the year in England, which begins " on the twenty-fifth of March, hath been attended with divers inconveniencies," (ſtrange that this was not rectified long ago!) " as it differs from other nations, and the legal method " of computation in Scotland, and the common uſage throughout the whole kingdom; and " that thereby frequent miſtakes in the dates of deeds and other writings are occaſioned, and " diſputes ariſe therefrom. And that the Julian Calendar, now in uſe throughout the Britiſh " dominions, hath been diſcovered to be erroneous, by means whereof, the vernal equinox, " which at the time of the Council of Nice, in the year 325, happened on or about the twen- " ty-firſt of March, now happens on the ninth or tenth of the ſame month: and the error " ſtill increaſing, and, if not remedied, would, in time, occaſion the ſeveral equinoxes and " ſolſtices to fall at very different times in the civil year from what they formerly did, which " might tend to miſlead perſons ignorant of ſuch alteration. And as a method of correcting " the calendar, ſo as that the equinoxes and ſolſtices may for the future fall on the ſame no- " minal days on which they happened at the time of the ſaid General Council, hath been eſta- " bliſhed, and is now generally practiſed by almoſt all other nations of Europe: and, as it " will be of general convenience to merchants, and other perſons correſponding with other " nations and countries, and will tend to prevent miſtakes and diſputes concerning the dates " of letters and accounts, if the like correction be received and eſtabliſhed in his Majeſty's " dominions."

That is to ſay, in other words, that the mean tropical ſolar year, or that mean ſpace of time wherein the ſun or earth, departing from any point of the ecliptic, returns to the ſame point again, conſiſts, according to the learned Dr. Halley's tables, of three hundred and ſixty-five days, five hours, forty-eight minutes, and fifty-five ſeconds; which being leſs, by eleven minutes and five ſeconds, than the mean Julian year, or old ſtile, conſiſting of three hundred and ſixty-five days and ſix hours, made an error in our old ſtile, hitherto followed by Great

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1751 Britain, of eleven minutes and five feconds in each Julian year, being forty-four minutes and twenty feconds in every four years; and three days, one hour, fifty-three minutes, and twenty feconds in every four hundred Julian years, or years of our faid old-ftile; and made eleven days difference between us and the greateft part of Europe, efpecially all of the Roman Catholic perfuafion, and moft of the Proteftant ftates alfo. The Julian year or old ftile continued to be ufed all over Europe until Pope Gregory the Thirteenth, by the help of the beft aftronomers, in the year 1582, difcovered the inconveniencies of the Julian computation, whereby it appeared, that in one hundred and twenty-nine years and three hundred and thirty-feven and a half days, it made an error of one whole day: and, in four hundred Julian years, an error of three days, one hour, fifty-three minutes, and twenty feconds, as above: and that fince the above-named council of Nice, in the year 325, the faid old-ftile had made an error of upwards of nine days, which in the year 1701 was computed to be eleven days, *i. e.* fo much was our error at the commencement of the eighteenth century. Whereby our faid old-ftile made the vernal equinox happen eleven days fooner than by the faid new-ftile it really does: fo that our tenth of March ought to be reckoned, as it will now be, on the twenty-firft of that month.

Pope Gregory's principal intention in that alteration was for regulating the true time of celebrating the feaft of Eafter; but our grand concern, in a mercantile fenfe, was to reduce our ftile to that of almoft all the reft of Europe; the difference of eleven days frequently occafioning errors and miftakes in bufinefs. Moreover, nothing certainly could be more inconvenient, not to fay abfurd, than to begin our legal year on the twenty-fifth of March, whereby a whole year was frequently miftaken in our chronological hiftories through inadvertency: the year therefore was now to commence on the firft of January, with all the reft of Chriftendom, and efpecially with Scotland; though that country, in other refpects, had, like England, till now kept to the old-ftile.

It was therefore enacted, " That, throughout all his Majefty's dominions in Europe, Afia, " Africa, and America, the faid old fupputation fhall not be ufed after the laft day of De-" cember 1751, and that the firft of January following fhall be accounted the firft day of the " year 1752, and fo on, in every year after: and after the faid firft of January 1752, the " days of the months fhall go on and be reckoned in the fame order, and the feaft of Eafter, " and other moveable feafts depending thereon, fhall be afcertained according to the fame " method they now are, until the fecond of September in 1752, inclufive, and the next day " fhall be accounted the fourteenth of September, omitting, for that time only, the eleven " intermediate nominal days; and the following days fhall be numbered forward in numerical " order from the faid fourteenth of September, as now ufed in the prefent calendar: and all " acts and writings which fhall be made or executed upon or after the faid firft of January " 1752, fhall bear date according to the new method of fupputation; and the two fixed terms " of St. Hilary and St. Michael in England, and the courts of great feffions in the counties " palatine and in Wales, and the courts of general quarter feffions, and general feffions of " the peace, and all other courts and meetings and affemblies of any bodies politic or cor-" porate, for the election of officers or members, or for officers entering upon the execution " of their refpective offices, or for any other purpofe, which by law or ufage, &c. are to be " held on any fixed day of any month, or on any day depending on the beginning, or any " certain day of any month, (excepting courts ufually holden with fairs or marts) fhall, after " the faid fecond of September, be held on the fame nominal days and times whereon they

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1751 " are now to be holden, but computed according to the new method of numbering, that is, " eleven days fooner than the refpective days whereon the fame are now kept.

" The years 1800, 1900, 2100, 2200, 2300, or any other hundredth years, except every " fourth hundredth, whereof the year 2000 fhall be the firft, fhall be deemed common years, " confifting of three hundred and fixty-five days; and the years 2000, 2400, 2800, and every " other fourth hundredth years from the year 2000, inclufive, and all other years which by " the prefent fupputation are efteemed to be Biffextile, or leap-years, fhall for the future be " efteemed to be Biffextile, or leap-years, confifting of three hundred and fixty-fix days, as " is now ufed with refpect to every fourth year.

" The feaft of Eafter, and the moveable feafts thereon depending, fhall be no longer ob- " ferved according to the method of fupputation now ufed, or the table prefixed to the book " of Common Prayer; and the faid table, and alfo the column of golden numbers, as they " are now prefixed to the refpective days of the month in the calendar, fhall be left out in all " future editions of the faid book; and the new calendar, tables, and rules, annexed to the " act, are to be prefixed in the ftead thereof: and, from and after the faid fecond of Sep- " tember, the fixed feafts, holy-days, and fafts, of the church of England, and alfo the feveral " folemn days of thankfgiving and of fafting and humiliation, enjoined to be obferved by " Parliament, fhall be obferved on the refpective nominal days marked for the celebration of " the fame in the new calendar; that is to fay, on the refpective nominal days, and the feaft " of Eafter, and other moveable feafts thereon depending, fhall be celebrated according to " the faid annexed calendar; and the two moveable terms of Eafter and Trinity, and all " courts, meetings, and affemblies, of any bodies politic or corporate, and all markets, fairs, " and marts, and courts thereunto belonging, which, by any law, ftatute, charter, or ufage, " are to be held and kept at any moveable time depending upon Eafter, or other moveable " feaft, fhall, after the faid fecond of September, be held and kept on the fame days and " times whereon the fame fhall happen, according to the falling of Eafter by the new " calendar.

" The meetings of the Court of Seffion, and terms fixed for the Court of Exchequer in " Scotland; the April meeting of the confervators of the great Level of the Fens, and the " holding and keeping of markets, fairs, and marts, for the fale of goods or cattle, or for " hiring of fervants, or for other purpofes, which are fixed to certain nominal days of the " month, or depending on the beginning, or any certain day of any month, and all courts " kept with fuch fairs or marts; fhall, after the faid fecond of September, be kept upon the " fame natural days upon which the fame would have been held if this act had not been " made: *i. e.* eleven days later than the fame would happen according to the nominal days of " the new fupputation of time, by which the commencement of each month, and the nominal " days thereof, are brought forward eleven days.

" But this act fhall not accelerate or anticipate the days or times for the opening, inclofing, " or fhutting up of grounds, common of pafture, or the days and times on which a temporary " and diftinct property and right in any fuch lands or grounds is to commence: but they fhall " be refpectively opened, and inclofed, or fhut up, and fhall commence on the fame natural " days and times, after the faid fecond of September, as before the making of this act; that " is, eleven days later than the fame would happen according to the new fupputation of " time.

" Neither

A. D. 1751 "Neither shall this act accelerate or anticipate the times of payment of rents, annuities, or "other monies, which shall become payable in consequence of any custom, usage, lease, deed, "writing, or other contract or agreement, now subsisting, or which shall be entered into be- "fore the said fourteenth of September, or which shall become payable by virtue of any act "of Parliament. Nor to accelerate the payment, or increase the interest of any money which "shall become payable as aforesaid, or the time of the delivery of any goods or other things "whatsoever, or the commencement, or determination of any leases or demises of lands, &c. "or other contracts or agreements, annuity, or rent, or of any grant for a term of years, "&c. or the time of attaining the age of twenty-one years, or any other age requisite by law, "usage, or writing, for the doing any act, or for any other purpose, by any persons now "born, or who shall be born before the said fourteenth of September; or the time of the de- "termination of any apprenticeship or other service by indenture, or by articles under seal, or "by reason of any simple contract or hiring: but all these shall commence, cease, and deter- "mine, at and upon the same natural days and times on which they would have happened if "this act had not been made."

By a subsequent law, of the twenty-fifth of George the Second, To amend this Act, it was enacted,

"First, That from the second of September 1752, the respective times for opening, using, "or inclosing of grounds for common pasture, and the paying of rents, &c. shall, if such "times are depending on any of the moveable feasts, take place according to the new "calendar.

"Secondly, The annual admission and swearing of the Lord-mayor of London, at Guild- "hall, hereafter shall be on the eighth of November, and the solemnity of swearing him at "the Court of Exchequer, at Westminster, on the ninth of the said month of November, "yearly."

It were further to be wished, that, when the legislature was engaged in considering a subject so useful to commerce and chronology, they had turned their thoughts to the method of dating acts of Parliament from the years of the reigning King, without mentioning the year of our Lord Christ, as in the laws of many other nations: whereby much uncertainty and frequent mistakes happen, in computing a number of years between a certain year of one King's reign to a certain year of another King's reign, or to the present time: this is frequently complained of, though not yet remedied. Yet this may easily be remedied in future, by superadding the year of our Lord Christ to the year of the reigning King.

The flourishing and much-improved condition of the kingdom of Ireland, in this year 1751, is so fully expressed in the Right Honourable the Earl of Orrery's letters, concerning the life and writings of Dean Swift, published in this year, that we shall transcribe it, from letter xvi, p. 127.

"The present state of Ireland is, in general, as flourishing as possible. Agriculture is cul- "tivated—arts and sciences are encouraged; and in the space of eighteen years, no kingdom "can be more improved. Ireland, in relation to England, may be compared to a younger "sister, lately come of age, after having suffered all the miseries of an injured minor; such "as, law suits, encroachments upon her property, violation of her rights, destruction of her "tenants, and every evil that can be named. At length, time, and her own noble spirit of "industry, have entirely relieved her; and, some little heartburnings excepted, she enjoys "the quiet possession of a very ample fortune, subject, by way of acknowledgment, to certain

"quit-

A. D.

1751 " quit-rents payable to the elder branch of her houſe: and let me add, by experience, that, " take her all in all, ſhe cannot have a greater fortune than ſhe deſerves."

The vaſt improvement of Scotland's linen manufacture, at this time, is well worth recording; between the year 1727, (when an act of Parliament paſſed for that end, whereby twenty-one truſtees were to be appointed, under the great ſeal, for ſuperintending the ſame) and this year 1751, when the following authentic account of it appeared, viz.

	Yards of Linen.	Value. £.
I. In the firſt five years from the paſſing of the ſaid act, viz. from 1728 to 1732, both included, there were made and ſtamped — — — —	17,441,161	662,938
II. Five years, from 1733 to 1737 —	23,734,136	897,254
III. Five years, from 1738 to 1742 —	23,366,863	949,221
IV. Five years, from 1743 to 1747 —	28,227,086	1,155,281
And for four years, from 1748 to 1751 —	30,172,300	1,344,814

The Britiſh Linen Company erected, in the year 1746, has been greatly inſtrumental in the advancement of that manufacture in Scotland, by advancing ready money to the poorer manufacturers for their goods; whereby they are enabled to carry on the ſame with much more ſpirit. The above-named board of truſtees do likewiſe beſtow annual premiums for the beſt manufactures; whereby a ſpirit of induſtry increaſes, more than ever, all over Scotland.—And, during the ſingle year 1754 alone, there were ſtamped eight millions nine hundred and fourteen thouſand three hundred and ſixty-nine yards of linen, worth five hundred and ſix thouſand eight hundred and ſixteen pounds eight ſhillings ſterling.

1752 The African or Guinea trade having been laid more open in a regulated company, by a ſtatute of the twenty-third of King George the Second, before recited; a compenſation was become neceſſary to be made, by way of ſatisfaction, to the old Royal African Company, for their charter, lands, forts, ſlaves, ſtores, and other effects, &c. An act therefore paſſed, in the twenty-fifth year of the ſaid King, " For the Application of a Sum of Money herein " mentioned, for thoſe Purpoſes, and for veſting thoſe Lands, Forts, &c. in the ſaid new " Company of Merchants trading to Africa:" for which ends, commiſſioners have before been appointed, for examining the claims of the ſaid late royal company, which they had already laid before the Parliament. It was now enacted, " That the ſaid late Royal African " Company ſhall, from and after the tenth of April 1752, be abſolutely diveſted of their " charter, &c. and of all their lands, forts, &c. beginning at the port of Sallee, and extend- " ing thence, ſouthward, to the Cape of Good Hope, together with all their cannon, canoe- " men, ſlaves, rights, and evidences, &c. The ſaid new company, with the conſent of the " Board of Trade and Plantations, are impowered to arm and train military forces at their " forts, and to puniſh offences, ſo as not to extend to life or limb; and to erect courts of " judicature for mercantile and maritime bargains, &c.

" 11. The ſum of one hundred and twelve thouſand one hundred and forty-two pounds " three ſhillings and three-pence ſhall be applied out of the ſupplies of this ſeſſion, for the " compenſation before-mentioned to the ſaid old company's proprietors and their credi- " tors, &c "

For the better civilizing and improving the Highlands of Scotland, and preventing of diſorders there for the future, an act of Parliament of this ſame ſeſſion paſſed, For annexing certain forfeited Eſtates in Scotland (by the rebellions of 1745 and 1746) to the Crown unalienably,

A. D. 1752 ably, and for making Satisfaction to the lawful Creditors thereupon; and to establish a Method of managing the same, enacted, "That all the lands, lordships, baronies, &c. of Simon, "late Lord Lovat, &c. shall, from the twenty-fifth of December, 1752, be annexed to the "crown unalienable for ever, saving the rights and claims thereon duly entered in the Court "of Session. The clear income of the said lands to be applied to the purposes of civilizing the "inhabitants upon the said estates, and other parts of the Highlands and Isles of Scotland, "the promoting amongst them the Protestant religion, good government, industry, and ma-"nufactures, and the principles of loyalty and duty to his Majesty, &c. and to no other use "or purpose whatsoever. The King may appoint commissioners and trustees for managing "the said estates, and for applying the produce for those ends and purposes, without having "any pension or reward for the same. They may grant leases thereof for twenty-one or "forty-one years, whereon the lessees shall covenant to lay out on the premises, in buildings "and other improvements, in the first seven years a sum not less than five years rent,—re-"serving, upon every lease, not less than three-fourths of the real annual value of the pre-"misses. All such lessees shall take the usual oaths to the government. No lease of lands or "tenements, other than mines or fishings, shall be of greater annual rent than twenty pounds "at the most. The commissioners, with the approbation of the Treasury, may appoint "factors on the said estates, to whom five per cent. of the rental shall be allowed;—the com-"missioners are to appoint a survey of the estates to be made, with proper plans of their ex-"tent and qualities, and what improvements may be made thereon; and an abstract of their "proceeding is to be annually reported to the Treasury, copies whereof to be laid before the "Parliament every session.

"The King may divide large parishes, entirely his own, and grant proper provisions to "the ministers of such new parishes, out of the present maintenance for the minister of the "old parish, and the remainder out of the rents of the said estates, so as the stipend shall not "exceed fifty pounds per annum, in money or value, to any one minister. The King may "erect schools on the said estates, or in any other part of the Highlands or Islands of Scot-"land, for instructing young persons in reading and writing the English language, and in the "several branches of agriculture and manufactures, and may erect houses for their reception, "and for carrying on such manufactures by them, and for accommodating their masters;—"and may apply such parts of the produce of the said estates as shall be necessary for erecting "such schools, providing salaries for the teachers, for cloathing and maintaining such young "persons, and for supplying the schools with utensils and materials for agriculture and manu-"factures; and for raising of flax, &c. as his Majesty shall direct. And the King may im-"power the commissioners to allot portions of land for the use of such schools, or to apply "such part of the clear rent of the lands as he shall direct, in the purchase of portions of land "to be allotted for such schools. His Majesty may impower the commissioners to grant out "in property, portions of ground, not exceeding ten acres to one person, to persons well-"affected, who shall take the oaths to the government, and oblige themselves to erect dwel-"ling-houses, &c. and gardens thereupon: such grounds to be held feu of his Majesty, for "payment of a yearly feu duty equal to such a proportion of the rent as shall correspond to the "ground feued out, &c.

"The King may also, out of the rents of the estates aforesaid, erect prisons on such parts of "the aforesaid lands, or other parts of the Highlands as he shall think fit, and the same shall "be deemed lawful prisons,—and allowance for the maintenance of indigent prisoners, &c."

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1752 Of this very good law, posterity will reap the principal benefit; beginnings being already making in several parts of the Highlands for working-schools, to which the most laudable Society in Scotland for propagating Christian Knowledge in the Highlands, &c. have lent a helping hand, by erecting several schools out of their own income, for the instruction of the children: new villages are also begun: manufactures, as well as agriculture, are set on foot, where none were known before: so that it is highly probable, that in half a century more, the most uncultivated parts of that country will wear a very different aspect.

" For several years past," says Dr. Busching, in his New Geography, " between four and " five thousand ships have sailed annually through the Sound: but in 1752, above six thou- " sand ships, (a number unheard of before) passed through those straits. In general, that toll " is on an equal footing with respect to all nations, excepting the Hamburgers, who must " pay more than others. The English, Dutch, Swedish, and French ships are not searched, " when provided with proper passes, according to treaties, and pay down only one per cent. " for such goods as are not specified in the tariff; but all other nations pay one and a quarter " per cent. and must submit to be searched. With regard to the Hans-towns on the Baltic, " there is a great variety in the toll they pay; for almost every one of those towns is treated " with in particular."

In this same year 1752, his Sicilian Majesty, since King of Spain, established, by patent, a company of commerce at Messina, principally intended for erecting of Manufactures of silk, stuffs, and camblets; the said company, for ten years to come, to be exempted from all kinds of duties: and, for the further encouragement hereof, his Majesty has limited the exportation of raw-silk to half the wonted quantity. Thus, almost every corner of Europe, in our age, strives to gain some part of the commercial advantages, which they clearly observe to contribute so much to the enrichment and exaltation of some other nations.

We the same year learned from Spain, that they are there striving for the increase of commerce and manufactures: that of late they have, in the kingdom of Valencia, two thousand looms for silk and woollen; one thousand in Granada; five hundred in Catalonia; and that, throughout all Spain, they reckon in all ten thousand such looms, in silk, gold, and silver tissue, middling and coarse woollen cloths, bayes, serges, camblets, &c. " And," says Don Jeronymo de Ustariz, a judicious Spanish author, " they are projecting no fewer than sixty " thousand new looms, whereby not only to supply themselves and their Indies, but to ex- " port to other European nations, and to erect I know not how many other new manufac- " tures: of all which it will be right to suspend our belief till experience clears it up."

1753 By a supplemental act of the British Parliament, of the twenty-sixth of George the Second, To explain, amend, and render more effectual an Act of the twenty-third Year of George the Second, entitled, An Act for the Encouragement of the British White-Herring Fishery; and for regulating the said Fishery according to the Calendar now in Use, &c.

I. It was now enacted, " That the commencement and duration of the fisheries, as directed " by the former act, shall hereafter be conformable to the calendar now in use.

" II. The society shall not be entitled to the bounty of thirty shillings per ton, in respect of " such vessels as shall return into port at the end of the fishery with a less number of hands " than is required (by the first act) to have on board at the rendezvous, unless it shall appear " that such number hath been reduced by death, sickness, or desertion, without any fraud or " collusion on the part of the society: and the said vessels are allowed, between the intervals

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1753 " of the Shetland and Yarmouth fisheries, to put into any port of Great Britain or Ireland, for " the purpose of changing their nets, and preparing for the Yarmouth fishery; of which " fishery the fleet of nets may be of any depth not under five fathoms.

" III. That the quantity of such white-herrings as shall hereafter be sent by the said society " or their agents to foreign markets, immediately from sea, without being first brought into " port, shall be ascertained by the oath of the society's superintendant of the fishery. And " whereas the place appointed by the first act for the rendezvous of the vessels on the first of " September is, in many cases, found inconvenient, it was now enacted, that their vessels " which shall rendezvous at Kirkwall, in the Orkney islands, on or before the twelfth of " September, and shall continue to be employed in fishing among the shoals of herrings, as " they move, to the eleventh of January, unless their loading shall be sooner compleated, " shall, in case all the other regulations and conditions in the said act be complied with, be " entitled to the bounties granted therein, as if they had rendezvoused at Campbell town at " the time required by that act. Provided, that no fishing vessel employed by the white-" herring fishery shall be obliged to carry to the latter fishing more than one fleet of nets."

By an act of the British Parliament of the said twenty-sixth of King George the Second, For permitting the Exportation of Wool, and Woollen or Bay-Yarn, from any Part of Ireland to any Port in Great Britain, it sets forth in its preamble, " That the permitting of " wool, and woollen or bay-yarn, to be exported only from certain ports in Ireland to cer-" tain ports in England, is not of so great and extensive an advantage to the trade of this king-" dom as it would be, if all the ports in Great Britain and Ireland were opened for that pur-" pose." It was therefore enacted, " That, from the fifth of June, 1753, any wool, or wool-" len or bay-yarn, wool-fels, shortlings, mortlings, wool-flocks, and worsted-yarn, may be " exported from any port in Ireland to any port in Great Britain. Provided, that exportations " and importations be under the same restrictions and regulations, and in the same manner in " all respects as wool or woollen-yarn are now by law permitted to be exported from Dublin, " and other therein-named ports of Ireland, to the port of Biddeford, and other therein-" named ports of England, or any of them."

In the said twenty-sixth year, an act of Parliament reduced the number of gentlemen constituting the Court of Directors of the South Sea Company, from three governors and thirty directors, to three governors and twenty-one directors, at the succeeding general election: and that no more than fifteen of the said twenty-one directors, who at the last preceding general election were elected directors, shall be chosen again into that office at the following election. This prudent frugality proceeded from the consideration of their Assiento trade being annihilated, as already related.

The French having gained a great superiority in the Turkey trade, a petition was presented to Parliament for entirely laying open our Turkey trade. On the other side, the Turkey Company represented, that such an open trade to Turkey would but further decrease the British trade thither.—That the more favourable situation of the port of Marseilles, and other concurring circumstances, not easily to be surmounted, had gradually given the French their present superiority. The Parliament therefore passed an act of this same twenty-sixth year, For enlarging and regulating the Trade into the Levant Seas. The substance of which sets forth the patent of King James the First, still in force at this time, dated the fourteenth of December, 1605, as we have recited in its proper place, and also that of King Charles the Second. " And whereas the company's trade into the Levant seas has since much decreased,

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1753 " the taking of lesser fines for being made free of this company, and the not restraining the " freedom thereof to mere merchants, and to such persons as residing within twenty miles of " London, are free of the said city; and the securing to all persons free of the company the " liberty of exporting all sorts of goods and merchandize, not forbidden by law, to any place " within the limits of their charter, from what parts of Great Britain, at what times, in what " quantity, and on board what legal ships they shall respectively think proper: and also of " importing, in the like manner, from any place within the limits of the said letters-patent, " raw-silk, or any other lawful merchandize purchased within the said limits,—are the most " probable means of recovering and extending the said trade for the benefit of the nation:— " It was therefore enacted,

" I. That from and after the twenty-fourth of June 1754," (instead of the former restraints in the said charters of paying twenty-five pounds for all made free under twenty-six years of age, and fifty pounds to be paid for all above that age; and that none residing within twenty miles of London shall be admitted to the freedom of the company, unless a freeman of that city; also the confining this freedom to mere merchants: as also the other restraints concerning the times of exportation and importation, &c.) " every subject of Great Britain, desiring " admission into the Turkey Company, shall be admitted within thirty days after such request, " and shall enjoy all the liberties, privileges, &c. granted by the said letters-patent, paying " or rendering for such admission, for the use of the company, twenty pounds, and no more.

" II. From the said twenty-fourth of June 1754, all persons, free of the company may, " separately or jointly, export any goods or merchandize, not prohibited by law to be ex- " ported) from any place in Great Britain, to any place within the limits of the charter, in " British or Plantation-built ships, navigated according to law, at any time, and to any per- " sons whomsoever, being free of the said company, or to the sons or apprentices of freemen, " (such freemen, sons, or apprentices, being his Majesty's Christian subjects) so long as they " shall remain under, and submit to the protection and direction of the British ambassador " and consuls respectively for the time being, and may also import, in like manner, raw-silk, " or other commodities purchased within the limits of the said letters-patent, not prohibited " by law to be imported, upon paying the King's duties and customs, and such impositions " as shall be assessed upon all merchandizes, &c. so exported, or imported, or upon ships " laden therewith, for defraying the necessary expences of the company.

" III. The exportation of gold and silver, either in foreign coin or bullion, shall be subject " to the bye-laws of the company.

" IV. The governor, or deputy-governor and company, are empowered, at a general court, " to make such rules, ordinances, or bye-laws, for the good government of the company, as " the majority of the members present shall think necessary: but they shall not be valid, un- " less confirmed at a subsequent general court, to be held at least one month after the former. " If seven or more of the freemen shall think themselves aggrieved by any rule, &c. made, or " to be made, they may appeal against the same to the Commissioners for Trade and Planta- " tions, who are required, with all convenient speed, to such an appeal, and to approve or " disapprove of such manner as shall appear to them to be fit and reasonable: but such rule, " ordinance, or bye-law, shall be in force till the appeal shall be heard, and it be disapproved " thereby.

" V. If any appeal shall be brought against any future rule, ordinance, or bye-law, to be " made, it shall be brought within twelve months after such rule, &c. shall be made and con- " firmed: and if any appeal shall be brought against any law, &c. of the company now in

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1753 "force, it shall be brought within twelve months after the said twenty-fourth of June 1754.
"And the appellants shall, at the same time, give notice, in writing, of such appeal, to the "governor, deputy-governor, or secretary of the company."

Thus the trade from Great Britain to the Levant is hereby as much laid open as seems consistent with the nature of that trade, all things being duly and impartially considered.

Yet, after all, it is difficult to recover a long-declining trade; especially when the advantages in carrying it on are in favour of any other nation. The shortness of the voyage from Marseilles to the Levant, the want of but one wind all the way, and the cheapness of freight, is the real cause of that superiority which the French have gradually gained over us in this trade. Time alone will decide what means can or will be effectual for our regaining that ascendant we once had above all other Christian nations in the trade to Turkey.

By a British act of Parliament, For encouraging and improving the Manufactory of Linen in the Highlands of Scotland, it was enacted, "That as the manufacture of coarse linens hath "been increased and improved in Great Britain and Ireland,—and as some progress has "been made in the manufacture of linen in the Highlands of Scotland, under the direc-"tions of the commissioners and trustees for improving fisheries and manufactures in Scot-"land; and as the encouragement of the manufacture of coarse linens in those parts of "the Highlands, wherein the manufacture of linens either hath not been already established, "or not advanced to any considerable degree of perfection, will be a further means of im-"proving and civilizing the Highlands, and the success of any provision for that purpose "will tend to the general good of the whole united kingdom, and also of Ireland: it is now "enacted,

"I. That, from the expiration of the term for which bounties, by the herein-recited acts, "are granted on the exportation of British and Irish coarse linens, the annual sum of three "thousand pounds shall be paid for nine years to the cashier of the commissioners and trustees "for improving of fisheries and manufactures in Scotland;—and shall be applied by them for "encouraging and improving the manufacture of linens in the Highlands only.

"II. No part of the said sum shall be applied for any other use than for instructing and "exciting the inhabitants of that part of Scotland to raise, prepare, and spin flax and hemp, "to be used in the manufacture of coarse linens, and to weave yarn, there spun, into such "linen, and for providing the inhabitants with fit materials and utensils for those purposes; "and for distributing rewards and prizes to the growers, preparers, spinners, weavers, and "other manufacturers, in respect either to the quantity or excellence of the flax or hemp so "raised or prepared, and of the yarn so spun, wove, or otherwise manufactured; and for such "other-like uses as the commissioners shall think proper, for promoting the true intent of "this act. The said annual sum shall be paid in like manner as the annual sum of two thou-"sand pounds, and the surplusage of the duty on malt made in Scotland, by the thirteenth of "George the First, For encouraging and promoting Fisheries and other Manufactories and "Improvements in that Part of Great Britain called Scotland, or as by letters patent under "the great seal in Scotland, are directed to be paid."

In this same twenty-sixth year of King George the Second of Great Britain, an act of Parliament passed, For the Purchase of the Museum or Collection of Sir Hans Sloane, and of the Harleian Collection of Manuscripts: and for providing one general Repository for the better Reception and more convenient Use of the said Collections; and of the famous Cottonian Library, and of the Additions made and to be made thereto.

Now,

A. D. 1753 Now, although this statute has no immediate connection with commercial history, yet its consequences are like to prove so noble, so much to the honour of the nation, and possessing such a tendency to draw foreigners from all the polite parts of Christendom to London, for the viewing of so incomparable a collection of rich, scarce, and matchless curiosities, of both nature and art, that we could not pass it over in silence; more especially as, in its more remote consequences, it is likely to prove hereafter very beneficial to commerce.

The preamble sets forth, "That Sir Hans Sloane, Baronet, deceased, having through the "course of many years, with great labour and expence, gathered together whatever could be "procured either in our own or foreign countries that was rare and curious, by a codicil, "bearing date the twentieth of July 1749, (after having expressed his desire, that his said "collection, in all its branches, might, if possible, be preserved together whole and entire, "in his manor-house at Chelsea) did devise to certain trustees his said museum; consisting of "all his library, drawings, manuscripts, prints, medals and coins ancient and modern, an-"tiquities, seals, cameaos, intaglios, precious stones, agates, jaspers, vessels of agate and "jasper, chrystals, mathematical instruments, drawings, and pictures; and all other things "in his said collection, more particularly described and numbered, with short histories or "accounts of them, in catalogues by him made, containing thirty-eight volumes in folio and "eight in quarto. To have and to hold to them and their successors and assigns for ever, for "such purposes, and with such powers, and under such restrictions, as in the said codicil are "expressed; willing and desirous, that the said trustees should make their humble application "to his Majesty, or to the Parliament, after his decease, to pay the sum of twenty thousand "pounds to his executors, in consideration of his said museum; and also to obtain such suf-"ficient powers, for vesting in the said trustees the said museum in all its branches: and also "to obtain a sufficient fund or provision for maintaining and taking care of his said collection "and premises. And as the said museum is of much greater intrinsic value than the said sum "of twenty thousand pounds, and as all arts and sciences have a connection with each other, "and discoveries in natural philosophy and other branches of speculative knowledge, (for the "advancement and improvement whereof the said collection was intended) do and may, in "many instances, give help and success to useful experiments and inventions: it is enacted,

"I. That twenty thousand pounds be paid to the executors of Sir Hans Sloane for the said "museum.

"II. And whereas by an act of the twelfth and thirteenth of King William III. For the "better settling and preserving the Library kept in the House at Westminster, called Cotton "House, in the Name of the Family of the Cottons, for the Benefit of the Public; reciting, "That Sir Robert Cotton, late of Conington, in the county of Huntington, Baronet, did, "at his own great charge, and by the assistance of the most learned antiquaries of his time, "collect and purchase the most useful manuscripts, written books, papers, parchments, re-"cords, and other memorials, in most languages; of great use and service for the knowledge "and preservation of our constitution in church and state: and further reciting, that the said "library had been preserved with the utmost care by Sir Thomas Cotton, son of the said Sir "Robert, and by Sir John Cotton, (then living) grandson of the said Sir Robert; and had "been very much augmented by them, and lodged in a very proper place in the said Sir "Robert's ancient mansion-house at Westminster, for public use and advantage.

"III. That the trustees thereby appointed shall have the said Cotton-house and gardens, "&c. and also the said library vested in them and their successors for ever, for the purposes

1753 " therein mentioned, upon truſt, to inſpect, conſult, and take care of the ſaid library;—and " ſhall appoint a perſon well read in antiquities and records to have the immediate care thereof.

" IV. And an act of the fifth of Queen Anne, For the better ſecuring her Majeſty's Pur- " chaſe of the ſaid Cotton Houſe, recites, That the Queen might render ſo great a treaſure " of books and manuſcripts uſeful to her own ſubjects and to all learned foreigners, ſhe had " purchaſed the ſaid Cotton-houſe and garden, for four thouſand five hundred pounds of Sir " John Cotton; and that a convenient room ſhould be built, wherein the ſaid library ſhould " be lodged, and ſhould be called by the name of the Cottonian Library; to be managed by " the truſtees therein mentioned, for the uſe of the public for ever.

" Which library, however, for want of a proper repoſitory, did, in the year 1731, ſuffer " by a fire, which conſumed the houſe wherein the ſame was then placed; and what remains " of the ſaid library ſtill continues in the ſame inconvenient room to which, upon occaſion of " that fire, it was removed.

" And further recites, That Arthur Edwards, Eſquire, being deſirous to preſerve for the " public uſe the ſaid library, did, by will, dated in 1738, deviſe ſeven thouſand pounds (after " the death of Mrs. Elizabeth Milles) to erect, in a proper ſituation, ſuch a houſe as might " be moſt likely to preſerve the ſaid library from future accidents. But if, before that bequeſt " ſhould take place, ſuch a building ſhall be erected, then the ſaid ſum ſhall be employed in " purchaſing ſuch manuſcripts, books of antiquities, ancient coins, medals, and other curi- " oſities, as might be worthy to increaſe and enlarge the ſaid library. He did alſo thereby " give to the ſaid truſtees all his books, in caſes, and alſo his pictures; which have been " placed, according to his deſire, in the ſaid library.

" V. And whereas the Right Honourable the Counteſs Dowager of Oxford and Mor- " timer, and the Moſt Noble the Ducheſs of Portland, her only daughter, have expreſſed " their approbation of a propoſal for the purchaſe of the valuable collection of manuſcripts " collected by the late Earl of Oxford, and by his father, in conſideration of ten thouſand " pounds, on condition that the ſame ſhall be kept together in a proper repoſitory, as an addi- " tion to the Cottonian Library, and to be called by the name of the Harleian Collection of " Manuſcripts: it is now enacted, that ten thouſand pounds ſhall be paid for them to the ſaid " Counteſs's truſtees. The ſaid collection of manuſcripts to be placed and continued in the " ſame repoſitory in which the Cottonian Library is herein-after to be placed. The Arch- " biſhop of Canterbury, the Lord Chancellor, (or Lord Keeper) the Lord Treaſurer, (or " firſt Commiſſioner of the Treaſury) the Lord Preſident of the Council, the Lord Privy Seal, " the Lord High Admiral, (or firſt Commiſſioner of the Admiralty) the Lord Steward and Lord " Chamberlain of his Majeſty's Houſhold, the Biſhop of London, each of the principal Secre- " taries of State, being a Peer or Lord of Parliament, the Speaker of the Houſe of Commons, each " of the principal Secretaries of State, not being a Peer or Lord of Parliament, the Chancellor of " the Exchequer, the Lord Chief Juſtice of the King's Bench, the Maſter of the Rolls, the Lord " Chief Juſtice of the Common Pleas, his Majeſty's Attorney-general and Solicitor-general, " the Preſident of the Royal Society, the Preſident of the Royal College of Phyſicians; toge- " ther with Charles Lord Cadogan, and Hans Stanley, Eſquire; with Samuel Boroughs and " Thomas Hart, Eſquires, two of the preſent truſtees of the Cottonian Library; together " alſo with the Moſt Noble William Duke of Portland, and the Right Honourable Edward " Earl of Oxford and Mortimer; ſhall be truſtees for putting this act into execution: and " they, or the major part of them, in a general meeting aſſembled, (whereof the Archbiſhop

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1753 " of Canterbury, the Lord Chancellor (or Lord Keeper) and the Speaker of the House of " Commons, shall be three) shall nominate fifteen other persons to be associates to them, and " who shall continue trustees for life: and, on the death of any such trustee, the rest shall, in " like manner, elect another in his place, and so *toties quoties*.

Next follow several clauses, for the succession to Lord Cadogan, and to Hans Stanley, Esquire, or to Samuel Boroughs and Thomas Hart, Esquires: and to the Duke of Portland " and Earl of Oxford. As the major part of all the trustees, the Lord Archbishop of Can- " terbury, the Lord Chancellor, and the Speaker of the House of Commons, cannot all be " present at every general meeting for the election of trustees, this clause was altered by an " act of the succeeding session, For making perpetual several Laws, &c. " So as that any " two of the first named three, and a majority of a general meeting of the other trustees, " whereof not less than seven to be present, shall be deemed valid and effectual."

" VI. One general repository shall be provided in such convenient place within the cities of " of London or Westminster, or their suburbs, as the trustees shall direct, for the reception " of Sloane's Museum, the Cottonian Library, and the additions to be made thereto by " virtue of the will of the said Arthur Edwards, Esquire,) and also of the Harleian Manu- " scripts; and of such other additions to the Cottonian Library as shall be made; and of such " other collections and libraries, as, with the approbation of the trustees for this act, shall be " admitted into the said general repository. And the museum of Sir Hans Sloane in all its " branches, shall therein be kept together and entire, with proper marks of distinction.— " Also the Harleian Collection of Manuscripts shall be kept together in the general repository, " as an addition to the Cottonian Library.

" VII. The trustees shall be one body politic and corporate, and shall have succession for " ever, by the name of The Trustees of the British Museum; with a common seal, and may " sue and be sued, make bye-laws, &c. with power to purchase and enjoy, for the purposes of " this act, as well goods and chattels, as lands, tenements, and hereditaments, not exceeding " five hundred pounds yearly. they may at a general meeting, from time to time, make " statutes and rules for the custody, preservation, and inspection, of the before-named several " collections;—may appoint the salaries of officers, and may displace such at pleasure.—And " the Archbishop of Canterbury, Chancellor, and Speaker, or any two of them, shall recom- " mend to his Majesty two fit persons, for the King to name one of them to be principal " librarian. And the rest of the officers and servants shall be appointed by those three, or " any two of them, who are hereby impowered, in case of the sickness or other necessary " absence of those officers, to appoint deputies to supply their places.

" VIII. Free access to the said general repository shall be given by the trustees to all " studious and curious persons, at such times, in such manner, and under such regulations, " for inspecting and consulting the same, as by the trustees, at a general meeting, shall be " limited for that purpose.

" IX. A lottery for three hundred thousand pounds, in tickets of three pounds each, is " hereby appointed for the purposes aforesaid, and twice fifty thousand tickets, at three " pounds each, were to be issued for that end, the first fifty thousand tickets to determine " the fate of the second fifty thousand tickets." but what is most memorable in this lottery was, that only two hundred thousand pounds was paid back to the adventurers in prizes, and the blanks utterly sunk; so that one hundred thousand pounds remained to this general repo- sitory.

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1753 fitory, out of which only the expence of the lottery was to be deducted: fo difadvantageous a lottery never having before been countenanced by authority.

"Finally, The remaining profits arifing from that lottery were to pay the before-named "twenty thoufand pounds to Sir Hans Sloane's executors, and ten thoufand pounds to the "Countefs of Oxford; alfo the expence of purchafing a general repofitory for receiving his "mufeum from Sir Hans Sloane's manor-houfe at Chelfea; alfo for receiving the manufcripts "of the late Earl of Oxford; and for removing thereto the Cottonian Library; and alfo for "falaries to officers and fervants; as alfo for the neceffary furniture of the faid general re-"pofitory, and of fuch cabinets, book-cafes, and other neceffaries and embellifhments as the "condition of the feveral collections fhall require."

We fhall only further add, that fince the paffing of this act, the truftees have purchafed and fitted up the elegant palace of the late Duke of Montagu, for the reception of all the faid three different fpecies of collections. An houfe worthy to be the general repofitory of the richeft and nobleft collection in the univerfe. A collection fo rich, fo vaft, and fo amazing, as literally to require days inftead of hours, for the mere infpection of it.

An act of Parliament paffed, of this fame feffion and twenty-fixth of King George the Second, to render more effectual an act of the twelfth of Queen Anne, For providing a public Reward for fuch Perfon or Perfons as fhall difcover the Longitude at Sea.

With regard to the making experiments of propofals to be made for difcovering the faid longitude, and to enlarge the number of commiffioners for putting in execution the faid act. This ftatute, after reciting the former act, now enacts, "That whereas a competent number of "the commiffioners for the longitude have heard and received feveral propofals, at different "times, for that difcovery, and were fo far fatisfied of the probabilities of fuch difcoveries, "that they thought it proper to make experiments thereof, and certified the fame to the com-"miffioners of the navy, with the name of Mr. John Harrifon, author of the faid propofals, "who thereupon received one thoufand two hundred and fifty pounds, as part of two thou-"fand pounds allotted by the former act; which the commiffioners thought neceffary for "making the faid experiments. And whereas a like competent number of commiffioners for "the longitude did appoint Mr. William Whifton to furvey and determine the longitude and "latitude of the chief ports and headlands on the coafts of Great Britain and Ireland, and the "iflands and plantations thereunto belonging, for which purpofe five hundred pounds more "(part of the faid two thoufand pounds) was applied; fo that the commiffioners have now "only two hundred and fifty pounds remaining of the faid two thoufand pounds. And as, "from the experiments already made, there is great reafon to expect, that by continuing to "encourage ingenious perfons to make further improvements, fuch difcoveries may at length "be produced as will effectually anfwer the end, and thereby contribute very much to the "advantage of the trade and honour of this kingdom. It is therefore hereby enacted, that "any five of the faid commiffioners fhall have full power to hear and receive propofals for "difcovering the faid longitude; and where they fhall be fo far fatisfied of the probability of "any fuch propofal or difcovery, as to think it proper to make experiment thereof, they fhall "certify the fame, together with the names of the authors, to the commiffioners of the navy, "who fhall thereupon make out bills for fuch fums, not exceeding two thoufand pounds over "and above the faid two hundred and fifty pounds, as the faid commiffioners for the longi-"tude fhall think neceffary for making fuch experiments. The Governor of Greenwich "Hofpital, the Judge of the Admiralty Court, the Secretaries of the Treafury, the Secretary

"of

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1753 "of the Admiralty Board, and the Comptroller of the Navy, ſhall be joint commiſſioners "with thoſe appointed by the ſaid act of the twelfth of Queen Anne, for diſcovering the "longitude."

Another ſtatute of this ſame ſeſſion of Parliament paſſed, though not without much oppoſition, To permit Perſons profeſſing the Jewiſh Religion to be naturalized by Parliament.

By an act of the ſeventh of King James II. and another of the thirteenth of King George II. all ſuch as were to be naturalized were firſt to receive the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper, and to take the legal oaths to the King; "whereby," ſays the preamble to this ſtatute, "many perſons of conſiderable ſubſtance, profeſſing the Jewiſh religion, are prevented from "being ſo naturalized." It was now therefore enacted, "That Jews may, upon application, "be naturalized by Parliament, without receiving the Sacrament, provided they, and all "others hereafter to be naturalized, ſhall be abſolutely ſubject to the diſabilities expreſſed in "an act of the firſt of King George I. recited in its place. And alſo who ſhall have previouſly "inhabited for three years in his Majeſty's dominions, without being abſent above three "months at any one time.

"Laſtly, Hereafter, all Jews are hereby diſabled from purchaſing or inheriting any advow-"ſon, or right of patronage, or preſentation, or other right to any benefice, prebend, or "other eccleſiaſtical living or promotion, ſchool, hoſpital, or donation."

As no ill uſe could well be made of this new privilege to the Jews; and as it might gradually have drawn hither many perſons of great ſubſtance to ſettle with their wealth among us, and might conſequently further promote the national commerce, there were many people who could not then conceive that it ſhould reaſonably have given any juſt offence to moderate and rational Chriſtians.

Nevertheleſs, this act was repealed in the following ſeſſions of Parliament; for which repeal the grounds aſſigned were, "That occaſion had been taken, from the ſaid firſt-named "law, to raiſe diſcontents, and to diſquiet the minds of many of his Majeſty's ſubjects: "wherefore it was now repealed to all intents and purpoſes;" being the very firſt public act of the ſaid ſeſſion.

The following account of the trade of his Majeſty's American province of South Carolina, was tranſmitted in this ſame year 1753, and is well worth recording, viz.

Eight months exportations from, and importations to, Charleſtown, viz. from the twelfth of November 1752, to the twelfth of July 1753.

Exported—	Rice	31,418	barrels.
	Pitch	13,814	
	Tar	6,221	
	Turpentine	3,808	
	Beef	263	
	Pork	234	
	Deer ſkins	303	hogſheads.
	Lumber	591,412	feet.
	Shingles	581,020	pieces.
	Caſk ſtaves	78,932	
Imported—	Rum	921	hogſheads.
	Ditto	30	tierces.
	Ditto	93	barrels.

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1753	Imported—Sugar	113	hogsheads.
	Ditto	5	tierces.
	Ditto	160	barrels.
	Ditto	65	baskets.
	Indian corn	63,315	bushels.
	Negroes	511	
	Flour	3,425	barrels.
	Salt	9,463	bushels.
	Madeira wine	230	hogsheads.
	Ditto	44	barrels.

N. B. They export from Carolina quantities of fine oranges and lemons, of various kinds, to the more northern plantations on the continent; and this would be a great branch of their trade, if those fine fruits could keep across the ocean to Great Britain; but it seems, after frequent trials, they cannot generally effect it.

There are various kinds of drugs produced in, and exported from Carolina, though not mentioned or particularized in this summary account; which, however, may be sufficient to give a tolerable idea of the increasing trade of that fine province.

This account, however, differs so widely from a whole year's exportations in this same year 1753, in our introduction, as possibly may be difficult to be accounted for, till new lights break forth. At present, we are inclined to think, that account comprehends at least more than one year's exportation of rice, Indian corn, &c.

A paragraph from the Dublin newspapers, in November in this year 1753, observes, "That by a late accurate survey and computation, there have been found to have been no "less than four thousand new houses erected, *i. e.* on new foundations, in that city and "suburbs, since the year 1711, mostly to the south and west of the town. In England," adds that news writer, "Liverpool, Sheffield, Manchester, Leeds, and Birmingham, have in-"creased more in proportion, in the said forty-two years." He might have added Bristol, also greatly increased, as also Glasgow, and other places. This increase, however, of Dublin, is indeed very great; and if, as it is generally remarked, there are eight persons, one with another, in every house in Dublin, then this increase amounts to thirty-two thousand persons in the said forty-two years time.

The increase of Manchester, Sheffield, Birmingham, Froome, Leeds, Bristol, Liverpool, Glasgow, &c. has proceeded principally from our general increase in manufactures and foreign commerce; Dublin partly by that, and also by the great resort to it, as being the seat of government, and by the increase of luxury in an enormous degree. The other places, by their woollen, linen, and iron, &c. manufactures; and from the vast increase of the foreign trade and navigation of Bristol, Liverpool, Hull, Glasgow, &c.

In the compass of this same year 1753, there entered the port of Marseilles one thousand two hundred and sixty-four ships.

And into the port of Cadiz one thousand one hundred ships.

1754 The year 1754 gave birth to one of the noblest designs for the improvement of the general commerce of Great Britain which could possibly have been devised; viz. the voluntary Society, for the Encouragement of Arts, Manufactures, and Commerce; its sole object being purely and most disinterestedly the improvement of ingenious and commercial arts, for the exciting both of emulation and industry, by honourable and pecuniary rewards. It was first set on

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1754 foot by means of the late Lord Folkſtone, Lord Romney, the late reverend and excellent Doctor Stephen Hales, and a few other private gentlemen; on the ſuggeſtion of a Mr. Shipley, an ingenious mechanic, who poſſeſſed ſentiments of public good very ſuperior to his ſituation in life: and as there was already two ſocieties of a ſimilar kind in Scotland and Ireland, this ſociety confined its premiums ſolely to that part of Great Britain called England, and to our own colonies, plantations and ſettlements in America, Africa, and Aſia.

This noble ſociety immediately began to advertiſe premiums for the encouragement of young people of both ſexes in the arts of drawing and deſigning; for the encouragement alſo of our planters in America, for raiſing all the rich and precious productions of the countries of Spaniſh and Portugueſe America, as well as of Aſia and Africa. Its utility ſuddenly began to be ſo well perceived, that many noblemen and eminent gentlemen, merchants, traders, &c. became members and ſubſcribers to it, even to the number of conſiderably above one thouſand perſons. Their preſent conſtitution conſiſts of one preſident, eight vice-preſidents, a ſecretary, and a regiſter, annually elected. Every perſon deſiring to be a member, muſt be propoſed by one or more members at one meeting, who muſt give in his name, &c. ſigned by himſelf, and muſt be balloted for at a ſucceeding meeting; and if two-thirds of the ſaid meeting be for admitting him, he ſhall be deemed a perpetual member, on payment of twenty guineas, or elſe a ſubſcribing member, on payment of any yearly ſum not leſs than two guineas: yet all noblemen, and alſo ſome gentlemen, ſubſcribe five guineas each, and others four, or three guineas yearly. They have now no ſingle treaſurer, all their money being lodged at the Bank of England, to be drawn out as wanted.

All queſtions are determined either by holding up of hands, or by ballot, if inſiſted on.

They generally invite all mankind to propoſe ſubjects for their encouragement, and when approved of by a committee, and confirmed by a general meeting, the matters propoſed, with their premiums, are annually publiſhed in the newſpapers, &c. and all poſſible impartiality in the diſtribution of premiums is carefully obviated, by concealing the claimants names, and appointing committees for the ſtrict examination of their merits, and occaſionally conſulting the moſt ſkilful artiſts.

Their meetings are well attended, a laudable zeal being by all exerted for the improvement of the fine arts, as well as of manufactures and commerce. From ſuch truly noble and diſintereſted intentions, and ſuch an extenſive plan for the advancement of the wealth, power, and glory of their country, what may not reaſonably be hoped for?—May they increaſe more and more, both in the number of their members, and in their revenue; in which all lovers of their country will ſurely join their ardent wiſhes.

	Tons.
A certain mercantile author, under the year 1754, juſtly enough remarks the uncertainty of exactly computing the number of the trading ſhipping of England: but when he conjectures they may be about two thouſand ſhips in foreign trade, amounting in tonnage to about — — —	170,000
And about the ſame number of coaſting veſſels, which may contain in tonnage about — — — — —	150,000
Total tonnage, by his account, —	320,000

He is ſurely ſhort of the mark in both reſpects, more eſpecially in the coaſting tonnage, conſidering the great number of colliers ſhips, large and ſmall.

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1754 When I was at Briſtol in the year 1743, I took ſome pains in enquiring at their cuſtom-houſe concerning their foreign and coaſting trades; and the general anſwer was, that Briſtol had upwards of four hundred ſhips, greater and leſſer, employed in foreign trade, including their trade to Ireland; but the number of coaſters they could not aſcertain, but only ſaid, that they were undoubtedly very many.

Since that time, it is ſaid, that Liverpool has gained ground, in ſome trades, of Briſtol, and may probably have about or near three hundred ſhips in foreign trade, beſide their coaſters. Now, if the number of ſhips trading beyond ſea, from all the other ports of Great Britain, or even of England alone, were exactly known, the whole may very probably amount to conſiderably (perhaps one half) more than two thouſand ſhips trading beyond ſea; more eſpecially if the account given of London's ſhipping (which Maitland, in his Survey of London, ſays was taken from the general regiſter at the Cuſtom-houſe, for the year 1732, and therefore an authentic one) be genuine.

Moreover, as he thinks London poſſeſſes one-fourth part of the foreign trade of the whole nation, becauſe ſhe pays three-twelfths of all the cuſtoms; then, if, as by his ſaid account of London's ſhipping, they amounted to one thouſand four hundred and ſeventeen ſhips, navigated by twenty-one thouſand ſeven hundred and ninety-ſeven ſeamen; and that in the year 1728, there arrived in the port of London, from all parts beyond ſea, one thouſand eight hundred and thirty-nine Britiſh ſhips, two hundred and thirteen foreign ſhips, and ſix thouſand eight hundred and thirty-ſeven coaſters, which laſt muſt generally imply they were Britiſh, ſurely the firſt-named computation muſt be far ſhort of the tonnage, foreign and coaſting, of the whole kingdom, which ſome conjecture to amount to at leaſt five hundred thouſand tons. The number, however, of London's ſhipping, has very conſiderably increaſed ſince the year 1732.

The bold and long projected ſcheme of France, for hemming in our American continental colonies between theirs and the ocean, by erecting a chain of forts all along the weſt ſide of our ſaid colonies, even down to the Bay of Mexico, began, in this year 1754, to ſhew itſelf more openly, though in a time of profound peace.

Immediately after the laſt peace of Aix la Chapelle they had inſtructed and directed their Indians and Canadians to diſtreſs and plunder our Indian traders, in the country about the great and far extended river Ohio, though properly ſubject to the Britiſh crown, as being a conqueſt of the five Iroquois nations, allowed by France in the treaty of Utrecht to be under the Britiſh dominion.

It was reaſon enough, for their purpoſe, that the getting poſſeſſion of the river Ohio ſeemed to them abſolutely requiſite for their above-named great purpoſe of connecting Canada with Louiſiana, or the Miſſiſippi country. For that end, they, in this ſame year, ſeized on and deſtroyed our fort in that country, after defeating Colonel Waſhington; whereupon they erected another in its ſtead, which they named Fort Du Queſne. This was ſuch an unparalleled breach of peace and friendſhip, as moſt neceſſarily brought on a war between Great Britain and France, both in Europe and America, which the latter has ſince had great reaſon to repent of.

We had, in the ſame year 1754, in the public news from France, an extraordinary inſtance of the immenſe increaſe of their Eaſt India commerce, viz. from Port L'Orient, the ſtation of their Eaſt India ſhipping, and of all their warehouſes and magazines, viz. That the ſale of the cargoes of fifteen French Eaſt India ſhips then amounted to about thirty-ſix millions of livres, or about one million and an half ſterling money. And, upon this occaſion it was remarked,

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1754 marked, that from the year 1664, when this company was firſt eſtabliſhed, to the year 1725, the courſe of exchange between France and the other ſtates of Europe, was always, or moſt generally, to the diſadvantage of France, becauſe thoſe countries ſupplied her with more merchandize than they took off from her: but that, ever ſince the year 1726, when the French Eaſt India Company, by their great importations from India, began firſt to counterbalance the Engliſh and Dutch in that trade, the courſe of exchange has been always or moſtly in favour of France.

1755 By a Britiſh act of Parliament, of the twenty-eighth of King George II. For further explaining, amending, &c. an Act of the Twenty-third Year of that King, for the encouragement of the Britiſh White Herring Fiſhery, it was enacted, "That the ſeveral allowances of "three pounds per cent. on all the principal money employed by the Corporation of the Free "Britiſh Fiſhery, and alſo the bounty of thirty ſhillings per ton on their ſhipping, be further "continued for three years, from the expiration of the former term: with ſome other leſſer "privileges now enacted,—ſuch as liberty to let to hire any of their buſſes to others, ſo as "they be employed in the ſaid fiſheries only; with ſome other benefits relating to the tonnage "bounty, and to their fiſhing at other ſtations than thoſe directed by former acts, &c."

In this ſame year 1755, (twenty-eighth of George II.) by an act of the Britiſh Parliament, For continuing, amending, and explaining the ſeveral Acts made for the further Encouragement of the Whale Fiſhery, &c. it is, *inter alia*, enacted;

"I. That every ſhip employed in that fiſhery ſhall have on board an apprentice, indentur- "ed for three years at leaſt, for every fifty tons burthen; who ſhall be accounted as one of "the number of men who by law ought to be on board ſuch ſhip.

"II. That no ſhip employed in the ſaid fiſhery, above the burthen of four hundred "tons, ſhall be entitled to a larger bounty than a ſhip of four hundred tons would be en- "titled to.

"III. Ships under two hundred tons burthen ſhall hereafter be entitled to the bounty of "forty ſhillings per ton, as well as thoſe of two hundred tons and upwards, are entitled to "by former ſtatutes."

On the firſt of November, in this year 1755, that great metropolis and mercantile city of Liſbon began to be almoſt utterly overturned and deſtroyed by repeated ſhocks of earthquakes for ſeveral ſucceeding days: whereupon the King and Parliament of Great Britain, to teſtify their great compaſſion for the ſufferers, and in general their great regard for the King of Portugal and his ſubjects, ſpeedily ſent thither one hundred thouſand pounds ſterling, for the relief of the diſtreſſed ſurviving inhabitants of Liſbon, in money and proviſions.

During the courſe of the year 1755, we were adviſed from Port L'Orient, that no fewer than twenty-five French Eaſt India Company's ſhips had ſailed from thence for India and China; which ſhews the vaſt increaſe of the French Eaſt Indian commerce in a few years ſpace.

The Engliſh Eaſt India Company's diſputes with the French Company in India, which had brought on the loſs of Fort St. George, our principal ſettlement there, though afterward reſtored by the treaty of Aix-la-Chapelle, having occaſioned a large debt on that company in India, their neceſſary payments alſo of many ſubſidies to the nabobs and other great officers in India, for keeping them in our company's intereſt, together likewiſe with the military force they were at this time obliged to keep up in India, having obliged the company, towards the cloſe of the year 1755, to take the reſolution of reducing the dividend on their transfer-

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1755 able capital ſtock, from eight to ſix per cent. from and after Chriſtmas 1755, even although no fewer than twenty one of their ſhips had returned ſafe from India within the compaſs of the year 1755; their ſaid firſt reduced half year's dividend of three per cent. was paid at Midſummer 1756, even although the cargoes of all the ſaid returned ſhips were valued at two millions and upwards.

1756 On Tueſday the eighteenth of May 1756, war was declared by the King of Great Britain againſt France; the depredations and violences of the latter in America, rendering that meaſure abſolutely neceſſary, in vindication of the honour of the Britiſh crown and nation, and for the ſafety and protection of the Britiſh American colonies.

On the twenty-ninth of June, in the ſame year, Fort St. Philip, the only defenſible place in the iſland of Minorca, ſurrendered to the French.

In this ſame year 1756, the twenty-ninth of King George the Second, ſeveral good laws were made by the Britiſh legiſlature, not only for the better ſupporting of the war againſt France, but for the encouragement and regulation of the Britiſh commerce and navigation in general, viz.

"I. Such as, the fifth public act,—to enable foreigners to ſerve as military officers in A-"merica.

"II. The eleventh,—for ſupplying of mariners on board ſhips of war and merchant-"ſhips.

"III. The fifteenth,—for granting bounties on Britiſh and Iriſh linens exported.

"IV. The twenty-third,—for encouraging of fiſheries in Scotland.

"V. The twenty-ſixth,—for ſecuring and encouraging the trade of his Majeſty's ſugar co-"lonies in America.

"VI. The thirty-third,—for regulating workmens wages, &c. employed in the woollen "manufacture.

"VII. The thirty-fourth,—for the encouragement of ſeamen, and the more ſpeedy man-"ning of the royal navy."

All which, though of a public nature, are not ſo important as to be even barely abridged in ſo general a work as ours.

1757 By an authentic account of the amount of the linen cloth, ſtamped for ſale in Scotland, from the firſt of November 1756 to the firſt of November 1757, it amounts to no fewer than nine million ſeven hundred and ſixty-four thouſand four hundred and eight yards and ſeven eighths, valued at four hundred and one thouſand five hundred and eleven pounds nine ſhillings and a halfpenny ſterling money: and in the ſaid year 1757, the ſaid linen manufacture in Scotland had been increaſed one million two hundred and ſeventeen thouſand two hundred and fifty-five one-quarter yards, valued at thirty-three thouſand ſeven hundred and eighty-nine pounds eighteen ſhillings and three farthings more than in the preceding year.

The year 1757 proved to be an extremely ſcarce year all over Europe, not only for wheat-corn, but for various other kinds of proviſions, whereby the poor of Great Britain ſuffered not a little for their daily ſuſtenance, and even perſons of middling circumſtances were put to a conſiderable additional expence; many graziers, butchers, bakers, fiſhmongers, &c. taking, we fear, too much advantage of the general dearth.

And whereas the price of wheat in England has, throughout this work, been made one nearly adequate rule (at leaſt more than that of any one other ſingle article of food or proviſions whatever) from the Norman conqueſt downward, of judging of the dearneſs or cheap-

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1757 nefs of living in general, as bread and flour are effentially neceffary to every human creature from the higheft to the loweft; and as three fhillings and fix pence per bufhel, or one pound eight fhillings per quarter, is deemed a low or cheap price for wheat; and that five fhillings per bufhel, or forty fhillings per quarter, has ufually been deemed the medium or middling price, we fhall here exhibit the rates of wheat at London, in every month of the faid year of dearth 1757, as fold at the Corn Exchange in Mark Lane, viz.

		£.	s.	d.		£.	s.	d.
In January 1757, per quarter, wheat,	from	2	9	0	to	2	10	0
February,	from	2	7	0	to	2	11	0
March,	from	2	6	0	to	2	14	0
April, - - -						3	4	0
May, - - -						3	4	0
June,	from	3	7	0	to	3	12	0
July, - - - -						2	18	0
Auguft, - - - -						1	14	0
September, - -						2	8	0
October, - - -						2	6	6
November, - -						2	2	0
December, - - -						2	2	0

For the remedying of that fore evil, many expedients were debated, both within and without doors; which at length produced the following ftatutes, of the faid thirtieth year of King George II. viz.

" An act to prohibit, for a time to be limited, the exportation of corn, malt, meal, flour, " bread, bifcuit, and ftarch.

" II. An act to difcontinue, for a limited time, the duties upon corn and flour imported, " &c.—

" III. An act to prohibit the exportation of corn, grain, meal, malt, flour, beef, pork, " bacon, &c. from America, unlefs to Great Britain or Ireland; and to permit the importa- " tion thereof into Great Britain and Ireland in neutral fhips, &c.—

" IV. An act for continuing the laft-named act, for difcontinuing the duties upon corn " and flour imported, &c.—

" V. Alfo an act for continuing an act of this fame feffion, to prohibit, for a limited time, " the making of low wines and fpirits from wheat, barley, malt, &c. or from any meal " or flour."

1758 By a ftatute of the next feffion of Parliament, of the thirty-firft of King George II. the before-named ftatutes for remedying the dearth of corn and other provifions, are further prolonged to the twenty-fourth of December, 1758.

And by another ftatute of the faid thirty-firft year of King George II. the permitting the importation of falted beef, pork, and butter, into Great Britain from Ireland, at the time of fo great a dearth of all kinds of provifions, was judged at that time to be of great advantage to both kingdoms: and therefore the fame was hereby fo permitted to be imported for fix months from Midfummer 1758, free from the payment of all fubfidies, cuftoms, &c. excepting one fhilling

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1758 shilling and three pence per hundred weight for such beef and pork imported, and four pence per hundred weight on salted butter, for the benefit of the salt duty;—altered next session to three shillings and four pence per barrel for salted beef, pork, or butter; and one shilling and three pence per hundred weight for dried beef tongues, or dried hog's-meat; in order to be adequate to the duty payable for such quantity of salt as is requisite to be used in curing and salting thereof.

In the same session of Parliament was passed, An Act for the due making of Bread; and to regulate the Price and Assize thereof: and to punish Persons who shall adulterate Meal, Flour, or Bread. This act was principally occasioned by accounts daily published of certain bakers mixing lime, alum, and other unwholsome ingredients, in that time of scarcity, in their bread. The legislature therefore took that matter into their serious consideration, and took this opportunity likewise of examining an act of the fifty-first of King Henry III. intitled, *Assiza Panis et Cerivisiæ*, *i. e.* The Assize of Bread and Ale, and another act of the eighth year of Queen Anne, To regulate the Price and Assize of Bread; whereby so much of the before-named act as related to the assize of bread was repealed. Which act of Queen Anne, with several alterations and amendments made thereto by some subsequent acts, was continued until the twenty-fourth of June 1757, and to the end of the then next session of Parliament. This present statute, therefore, reduced into one act all the several laws in force, relating to the due making, and the prices and assize of bread, all preceding statutes being hereby repealed: and new tables for the assize and prices of the various kinds of bread were therein promulgated, as also what relates to the prices of the three sorts of wheat, wheaten, and houshold flour, of rye and rye-meal; of barley and barley-meal; of oats and oat-meal; of white peas and white peas-flour or meal; and of beans and bean-flour.

Several clauses were also added for preventing frauds in the prices of corn, flour, and meal; and for punishing of any bakers who shall mix different sorts of flour or meal in their bread, or shall put into their bread any unwholsome ingredients. Also meal or grain of different kinds, not to be sold as if of one kind only: and many other useful regulations for the said purposes, which are not necessary to be enlarged on in this place.

The harbour of Dover still wanting additional improvements, which, it is too much to be apprehended it will ever want, notwithstanding several former statutes for that end, and particularly that of the eleventh and twelfth of King William III. whereby several duties were laid on coals, and on ships and vessels, for raising a sum, not exceeding thirty thousand one hundred pounds. As also by an act of the second of Queen Anne, and by the second and fourth of King George I. &c. And that the trustees for Dover harbour have borrowed three thousand pounds more on the duties in those acts specified, which is not as yet repaid.—And as it would tend greatly to the preservation of his Majesty's ships of war, and to the protection and encouragement of trade, that the said harbour should be effectually repaired; but the money arising by the rates and duties, granted for that end, not being sufficient, it was therefore now enacted, by the thirty-first of King George the Second, "That from and after the expiration of the former term, one moiety of the former rates and duties shall be continued for "the term of twenty-one years longer, applicable to the support of Dover Harbour, and for "discharging the before-named debt of three thousand pounds, &c." It is much to be wished, though little to be expected, that this harbour, so happy in point of situation, may at length answer the great expence bestowed on it.

A. D. 1758 Several other useful statutes were made in the same thirty-first year of King George II. and the same session of Parliament; as,

I. For the Benefit and Encouragement of Seamen employed in the Royal Navy, and for establishing a regular Method for the punctual, frequent, and certain Payment of their Wages, and for enabling them more easily and readily to remit the same for the support of their Wives and Families; and for preventing of Frauds and Abuses attending such payments.—Tenth public statute of this session.

II. To permit the Importation of salted Beef, Pork, and Butter, from Ireland, for a limited Time.—(Provisions still continuing dear in England.)—The twenty-eighth public statute.

III. An Act for the due making of Bread, and to regulate the Price and Assize thereof; and to punish Persons who shall adulterate Meal, Flour, or Bread.—The twenty-ninth public act.

IV. An Act for applying a Sum of Money towards carrying on the Works for fortifying and securing the Harbour of Milford, in the County of Pembroke: the preamble whereof sets forth, "That this harbour is more conveniently situated for the fitting out of fleets, and stationing of cruizers, than any other harbour in this kingdom; and from the many great and local advantages attending it, would, if properly fortified and secured, greatly tend to facilitate the naval operations of this kingdom, hitherto too frequently retarded, and sometimes entirely frustrated, from the want of such a port of equipment.—Ten thousand pounds was therefore to be issued for making a beginning to the said work, and for purchasing necessary lands, &c. for that end," much to the credit of our own age, after having so long and often talked of it in this and the preceding century.

Milford is allowed to possess the very best haven in Great Britain; since, according to those who have surveyed it, one thousand sail of ships may safely ride in it, at a convenient distance from each other: it has thirteen roads, sixteen creeks, and five bays, all known by their respective names, its situation is most happy, clear of the so often experienced inconveniencies of both Portsmouth and Plymouth, by being without the Channel; and is, for that reason alone of such advantage to us, as will overbalance any expence which its fortifying, &c. may occasion, more especially in time of war with the more southern nations of Europe.—Thirty seventh public act.

V. An Act for vesting certain Messuages, Lands, Tenements, and Hereditaments; for the better securing his Majesty's Docks, Ships, and Stores at Portsmouth, Chatham, and Plymouth, and for the better fortifying the Town of Portsmouth, and the Citadel of Plymouth; in Trustees, for certain Uses; and for other Purposes therein mentioned.—Thirty-eighth public act.

By a statute of the year following, compensation was to be made to the proprietors of such lands as were purchased for the purposes of the last-named act: which five very well-judged statutes are unnecessary to be enlarged on in this work.

About this time an ingenious piece was published at Paris, entitled, *Les Intérets de la France mal entendus*, i. e. *The true Interest of France not rightly understood*, principally designed for promoting the husbandry and agriculture of that kingdom, alleged, very truly by the author, to have been too much neglected, both in the reign of Louis XV. and also by his predecessor, Louis XIV. for the sake of manufactures and of military glory, whilst France remained dependent on England for their very bread or corn

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1758 "This author ſuppoſes, for argument's ſake, the value of the riches of France to be one "thouſand millions of livres, which would produce fifty millions of livres yearly intereſt; "which being divided among ſeventeen millions of people," the number of people he ſuppoſes to be at this time in France, "it would ſupply fifty-nine ſols, or two livres nineteen ſols, "towards the ſubſiſtence of each individual perſon. He alſo ſuppoſes the whole expence of "every one of the ſaid ſeventeen millions, on an average, to be one hundred and ſixty livres "yearly; which, at ten-pence halfpenny ſterling per livre, is, in Engliſh money, ſeven "pounds." (Whether he borrowed this computation from our Engliſh political writers or "not, it exactly correſponds with them in this reſpect.) "Upon this ſuppoſition, France, "for her full ſubſiſtence, ſhould receive from its agriculture, the yearly value of two thou- "ſand ſeven hundred and twenty millions of livres, unleſs ſupplied by art and induſtry.— "Of the ſeventeen millions of people, he ſuppoſes twelve millions to reſide in cities and great "towns, whilſt the country wants people to till the ground. That this defect is, in part, "owing to Cardinal Richlieu's ſyſtem, in re-uniting the ſupreme authority in one ſingle "point—the King: whereas, before, France was divided into many ſovereignties, under "particular lords, which kept the people at a greater diſtance from each other. But now men "croud to court, from whence flows all favours. Another cauſe is the unequal diſtribution "of lands.—And that, were all the lands of France equally divided, there would be nine "acres and a half for each perſon."

This eſſay is rather a curious and fanciful piece of ſpeculation, than a ſcheme entirely reducible to practice: yet many uſeful inferences may be drawn by ſtateſmen, &c. from ſuch politico-arithmetical eſſays.

In this ſame year 1758, by the diligent and provident application of his Britannic Majeſty, and his miniſters, the good fortune of the nation, in its American provinces, began to be conſpicuous againſt France.

I. By our taking the town and fort of Louiſbourg, with the iſles of Cape Breton and St. John; whereby we were once more put in poſſeſſion of the key to the trade, navigation, and fiſhery of North America: and without which key conſtantly remaining in our hands, (or at leaſt its not remaining in the poſſeſſion of any other power, and more eſpecially of France) neither our continental colonies, nor our Newfoundland and New England fiſheries, can ever long remain ſafe and proſperous.

II. And to add to our good fortune, in this ſame year 1758, the forces in the province of New York took and razed the French fortreſs of Frontenac, on the Lake of Ontario, as alſo Fort du Queſne, on the river Ohio, which the French had taken from us two years before; which latter fort has been rebuilt by us, by the new name of Pittſburg. Both which fortreſſes were perfidiouſly built by the French, through our own ſupineneſs, on the territory of the province of New York, and in time of peace.

III. Laſtly, to crown the glory and felicity of this year, and juſt at the very cloſe of it, a ſquadron of our navy, with ſome land-forces on board, took the iſle of Goree, lying near the mouth of the vaſt river Senegal, known to the ancients by the name of the river Niger; we having, ſome months before, alſo taken from France their forts in that river, to which the iſle of Goree was deemed a protection and ſecurity. By thoſe conqueſts we have acquired a new and very conſiderable branch of commerce, in poſſeſſing the entire trade for gum Senega, or Senegal, before ſolely enjoyed by the French on that river and coaſt, a drug extremely

uſeful

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1758 useful and necessary in our silk manufactures, &c. There are also several other useful drugs to be had there, as well as gold dust; and probably also this conquest will prove an addition to our slave trade.

1759 Provisions still continuing dear, an act passed in the thirty-second year of King George the Second, For continuing, for a further Time, the Prohibition of the Exportation of Corn, Malt, Flour, Bread, Biscuit, and Starch; and also to continue the Prohibition of the making of Low-Wines, and Spirits, from Wheat, Barley, Malt, or any other Grain, Meal, or Flour, as also from Bran.

Yet, by a subsequent act, of the same session of Parliament, (by reason of a better crop of corn, &c.) the said prohibition of the exportation of corn, &c. and of the payment of any bounty on exportation thereof, was to cease from and after Lady-day, 1759.

By another statute, of the said session, the free importation of all sorts of live cattle from Ireland to Great Britain was permitted for the space of five years, from and after the first of May 1759; exempted from the payment of all subsidies, customs, &c.

And by the very next statute it was enacted, That the duties payable upon tallow imported from Ireland should be discontinued, from the said first of May 1759, for the space of five years; its preamble importing, "That it may tend to the ease of the public and advantage of "the revenue, by reducing the high price and encouraging the consumption of candles in this "kingdom."

By an act of the British Parliament, of the thirty-second of King George II. For applying a Sum of money granted in this Session of Parliament towards carrying on the Works for fortifying and securing the Harbours of Milford, in Pembrokeshire, a second sum of ten thousand pounds was granted for further carrying on the same.——And an account of the application of the monies appropriated towards carrying on the said works is hereby directed to be laid before both Houses of Parliament, within twenty days after the opening of every session.

The British acts of Parliament, of the eighteenth and twenty-first years of King George II. for prohibiting the Wearing and Importation of Cambrics and French Lawns, not having proved effectual for preventing the fraudulent Importation thereof; it was in this thirty-second year of King George II. enacted, For the more effectual preventing the fraudulent Importation of Cambrics and French Lawns.

"I. That, from the first of August 1759, none such shall be imported, unless they be "packed in bales, cases, or boxes, covered with sack-cloth or canvas, containing each one "hundred whole pieces; otherwise to be forfeited.

"II. Cambrics and French Lawns shall be imported for exportation only, to be lodged in "the King's Warehouses, and not to be delivered out but under the like security and restric- "tions as prohibited East India goods.——And no customs or duties whatever shall be paid "or secured thereon, other than half the old subsidy, which is to remain by law, after the "goods are exported again,—&c."

The importation of woollen broad cloth, of the manufacture of France, into any ports of the Levant seas on behalf of British subjects, being not only a manifest discouragement and prejudice to the woollen manufactures of Great Britain, but is likewise a means of affording relief to the enemy:—an act therefore of this thirty-second year of King George II. passed, For the better preventing their Importation into the Ports of the Levant Sea, on behalf of British

1759 Subjects: and for the more effectual preventing the illegal Importation of Raw Silk and Mohair Yarn into the Kingdom.

"First, No such woollen goods of French manufacture shall be so imported within the "limits of the charter of the English Turkey or Levant Company, on account of any British "subject.

"Secondly, Nor shall any woollen broad cloth, or other British woollen goods, be im-"ported to any place within the limits of the Turkey Company's charter, except directly "from this kingdom on account of any British subject, unless the importer shall produce a "certificate to the British ambassador, or the consul, vice-consul, or other proper officer ap-"pointed by the Levant or Turkey Company, at the port where such goods shall be imported, "upon oath from the exporter or shipper at the last place of exportation, That the same were "brought or received from Great Britain. In which certificate shall be the name of the ship "and of the master, as well as the time when imported; also the bill of lading from Great "Britain.——otherwise to be deemed French, and to be accordingly confiscated.

"Thirdly, All British merchants in Turkey shall, before his exporting any goods from "thence, make oath before the British ambassador, or consul, &c. That the same were not "purchased with the produce of French woollen goods: and the importer thereof into Great "Britain shall there also make the like oath."

This act was occasioned by discoveries very lately made of British subjects fraudulently shipping from Leghorn quantities of French woolen cloths for Turkey under the denomination of English, to the great detriment of the British woollen manufactures.

By the said act also, provision was made against another fraudulent practice, viz.

Whereas the woollen manufactures of France are of late years sent to Turkey, in great quantities; and the French, in return thereof, bring back raw silk and other commodities to Marseilles and other ports, which have afterwards been carried thence into Italy, from whence they were afterwards shipped for Great Britain, in English ships; greatly to the discouragement of the British woollen manufactures and to the advancement of those of France; measures were therefore hereby laid down for preventing both the said abuses. But this act was to continue in force during the war in France, and no longer.

There being an unusual scarcity of gold and silver at this time in England, partly occasioned by much money having been carried out of the nation, on account of our expensive wars in Germany and America, &c. and partly by the large demand for the current service of the year 1759, the Bank of England for the better accommodating of the public in their receipts and payments, did, in April 1759, issue cash-notes for fifteen pounds, and for ten pounds; which have proved very convenient for payments both in gold and silver in making up of larger sums. Possibly, that bank, without any great inconvenience to themselves, and with considerable convenience to the public, (more especially in the country, now that the forging or altering them is rendered so difficult) might issue notes as low as five pounds; but lower than that sum would probably be attended with real inconveniencies, in a country of so extensive an inland commerce: although, as we have elsewhere observed, notes of the two incorporated Edinburgh banks, even so low as twenty shillings sterling, are circulated all over that country, and prove extremely useful in fairs and country places.

In the month of May, in the same year, the fine and fertile French West India isle of Guadaloupe, after having held out ever since February preceding against a British sea and land force, surrendered

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1759 surrendered to our troops by capitulation. It is by some computed to produce no less than forty thousand hogsheads of sugar, one year with another: but this is since known to be exaggerated.

In that same month and year, the foreign newspapers acquainted the public, that the King of Denmark, having ordered an account to be made of the number of men, women, and children, throughout all his extensive dominions of Denmark, Norway, Holstein, the islands in the Baltic, and the counties of Oldenburgh and Delmenhorst, in Westphalia; they amounted to two millions four hundred and forty-four thousand souls. It does not thereby appear that his Danish Majesty's subjects in Iceland are included in this census; though, considering the barrenness of that isle, and its lamentably cold climate, they can be but few in number.

We had public advices, in this year 1759, from Charles Town, in South Carolina, of a very hopeful prospect in that province of the gradual and considerable progress and increase of the production of raw-silk there, and in the adjoining province of Georgia, viz.

"In the year 1757, one thousand and fifty-two pound weight of raw-silk balls were received "at the Filature in Georgia: and the next year produced no less than seven thousand and "forty pound weight thereof. And that, in this year 1759, there has been received at Sa-"vannah, the capital of Georgia, considerably above ten thousand pound weight of raw-silk, "although the season has not been favourable. This great increase of that rich, new, and "valuable production in those provinces is owing to the increased number of hands in raising "the same."

We cannot more emphatically describe the triumphs or glories of the British monarchy during the same year 1759, than by transcribing part of the congratulatory address of the Lord Mayor, Aldermen, and Commons of the City of London, presented to his Britannic Majesty on the twentieth of October 1759, viz.

They humbly beseech his Majesty to accept of their most humble but warmest congratulations upon the rapid and uninterrupted series of victories and successes, which, under the divine blessing, have attended his arms both by sea and land, within the compass of this distinguished and ever memorable year. "The reduction of fort Du Quesne, on the Ohio;—"of the island of Goree, in Africa:—and of Guadaloupe, with its dependencies, in the West "Indies.—The repulse and defeat of the whole French army, by a handful of infantry, on "the plains of Minden.—The taking of Niagara, Ticonderago, and Crown-Point.—The "naval victory off Cape-Lagos.—The advantages gained over the French nation in the East "Indies:—and above all, the conquest of Quebec, (the capital of the French empire in North "America) in a manner so glorious to your Majesty's arms, against every advantage of situ-"ation and superior numbers, are such events as will for ever render your Majesty's auspici-"ous reign the favourite æra in the history of Great Britain.——Measures of such national "concern, so invariably pursued, and acquisitions of so much consequence to the power and "trade of Great Britain, are the noblest proofs of your Majesty's paternal affection, and re-"gard for the true interest of your kingdoms, and reflect honour upon those whom your Ma-"jesty has been pleased to admit into your councils, or to intrust with the conduct of your "fleets and armies.—These will ever command the lives and fortunes of a free and grateful "people, in defence of your Majesty's sacred person and royal family, against the attempts of "all your enemies," &c.

As

1759 As the grants of the Parliament of Great Britain, for the ſervice of the year 1759, ſo far ſurpaſſed all former ones, we thought they well merited a place in this work, viz.

	£.	s.	d.
For ſixty thouſand ſeamen, including fourteen thouſand eight hundred and forty-five marines, and ordnance for ſea ſervice —	3,120,000	0	0
For fifty-two thouſand three hundred and forty-three effective men, for guards and garriſons, and other land forces, in Great Britain, Guernſey, and Jerſey — — — — —	1,256,131	0	0
For pay of general and ſtaff officers, and officers of the hoſpital	52,484	0	0
For forces and garriſons in the Plantations and Gibraltar, proviſions for garriſons in Nova Scotia, Newfoundland, Providence, Cape Breton, and Senegal — — — — —	742,531	0	0
For four regiments of foot, and one battalion, on the Iriſh eſtabliſhment, ſerving in North America and Africa — —	40,879	0	0
For ordnance for land ſervice — — —	220,790	0	0
For extra-expence of ordnance 1758, not provided for —	323,988	0	0
For ordinary of the navy, and half-pay to officers —	238,491	0	0
For Greenwich Hoſpital — — —	10,000	0	0
For thirty-eight thouſand troops of Hanover, Wolfenbuttle, Saxa-Gotha, and Buckeburg, with the general and ſtaff-officers —	398,698	0	0
For nineteen thouſand and twelve Heſſians, with general and ſtaff officers, the hoſpital and train of artillery; purſuant to treaty —	339,480	0	0
Towards defraying the charges of forage, &c. for the army under Prince Ferdinand — — — —	500,000	0	0
Towards paying off the debts of the navy — —	1,000,000	0	0
For allowance to the officers and private men of the Horſe Guards and regiment of Horſe reduced, and the ſuperannuated men of the Horſe Guards — — — — —	2,959	0	0
For the reduced officers of the land forces and marines —	34,368	0	0
For penſions to widows married before the twenty-fifth of December 1716 — — — —	2,128	0	0
To the King of Pruſſia, purſuant to convention —	670,000	0	0
To the Landgrave of Heſſe Caſſel, purſuant to treaty —	60,000	0	0
To defray the like ſum voted laſt ſeſſion, and charged on the aids	800,000	0	0
For building, rebuilding, and repairing the King's ſhips —	200,000	0	0
For Chelſea Hoſpital — — — —	26,000	0	0
For widening, &c. the paſſage over London Bridge —	15,000	0	0
For the Foundling Hoſpital — — —	50,000	0	0
For the tranſport ſervice, &c. for land forces, 1758 —	667,772	0	0
For the colony of Nova Scotia, 1759 — —	9,902	0	0
For the charge thereof, 1757 — — —	11,279	0	0
For the civil eſtabliſhment of Georgia — —	4,058	0	0
For deficiency on wine licenſes, and duty on coals exported —	24,371	0	0
Carried forward £.	10,821,309	0	0

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	£.	s.	d.
Brought forward	10,821,309	0	0
For ditto on glaſs and ſpirituous liquors — —	8,882	0	0
For the Britiſh forts on the coaſts of Africa — —	10.000	0	0
To Dr. Long, Lowndes's Aſtronomical Profeſſor at Cambridge, for diſcharging a mortgage on an eſtate demiſed by Thomas Lowndes, Eſq. inventor of a method for meliorating brine ſalt, for the endowment of the ſaid Profeſſorſhip, &c. — — —	1,280	0	0
For paying and cloathing the militia, to twenty-fifth of March 1760	90,000	0	0
Extra-expences of land forces in 1758 — —	466,786	0	0
Fortifying Chatham Dock — — —	708	0	0
——— Portſmouth Town — — —	6,937	0	0
——— Plymouth Citadel — — —	25,159	0	0
——— Milford Haven — — —	10,000	0	0
Paying debts on the eſtate of Lord John Drummond —	69,911	0	0
To the Eaſt India Company for defending their ſettlements	20,000	0	0
To the provinces on North America, for troops raiſed by them	200,000	0	0
To innholders who billoted the Heſſian troops 1758 —	2,500	0	0
For augmenting the Judges ſalaries — —	11,450	0	0
To the widow of N. Harding, Eſq, for printing the Journals of the Houſe of Commons — — — —	779	0	0
For intereſt of money laid out to purchaſe lands about Chatham, Portſmouth, and Plymouth — — — —	1,716	0	0
For purchaſing lands about ditto — — —	2,443	0	0
For defraying any extra-expence of the war in 1759 —	1,000,000	0	0
Total ſterling money, exlcuſive of the odd ſhillings and pence	£. 12,749,860	0	0

I. Which ſum, in rubles of Ruſſia, at four ſhillings and ſix pence per ruble, amounts to — — — —	56,666,044 Rubles.
II. In German florins, at two ſhillings per florin —	127,498,600 Florins.
III. In Swediſh dollars, at one ſhilling and eight pence per dollar	152,998,320 Dollars.
IV. In French livres, at ten pence halfpenny per livre, it makes no leſs than — — — — —	286,663,714 Livres.

In the ſpring of the year 1758, the Britiſh Houſe of Commons had appointed a committee to conſider of reducing the weights, as alſo the meaſures of length and of capacity, to a perfect exactneſs and uniformity throughout the kingdom of Great Britain.

On the ſecond of June, in the ſame year, that committee made a report of their progreſs; and in the following ſeſſion, on the firſt of December 1758, a freſh committee was appointed for the ſaid purpoſe, and this committee took very great pains for enquiring into the original ſtandards of weights and meaſures, and into the moſt effectual means for aſcertaining and enforcing uniform and certain ſtandards thereof, as appears by their report of the eleventh and twelfth of April 1759; which report was approved of by that honourable Houſe, and was

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1759 printed and publifhed by their order. Yet, either by the multiplicity of other affairs, or through the difficulty of perfecting what had fo well been begun, or perhaps for both thofe reafons, it is much to be regretted that hitherto nothing further has been done therein, confidering how requifite and even neceffary fuch a regulation has long been thought to be, by all thinking perfons, who obferve the uncertainty, and even fometimes confufion, in the bufinefs of buying and felling certain meafurable commodities in fome counties, as corn, wool, &c. and the frauds committed, more efpecially amongft the lower people in the retail way of bufinefs. It is therefore to be hoped, that the legiflature, in peaceable times, will find leifure to reconfider this affair, which, though without doubt, muft be attended with difficulty, as partly appears by the laft-named report, will, when effectually regulated, redound very much to the credit of the legiflature, and to the benefit of the public.

Since our laft account of the increafe of the linen manufacture in Scotland, in the year 1757, we have the following moft promifing accounts of the quantity thereof made and ftamped for fale, viz.

	Yards.		£. s. d.
In the year 1758	10,624,435	Value	424,141 10 7
In the year 1759	10,830,707	Value	451,390 17 3

Thus, from the year 1728, the quantity has been gradually increafing from three millions of yards, to almoft eleven millions.

We had the following account of the Dutch whale fifhery in this fame year 1759, viz. that one hundred and thirty-three fhips brought home the produce of four hundred and thirty-five whales: which may be deemed a good year for that fifhery; being fomewhat above three and a quarter whales for each fhip.

But the Hamburgers were not fo fortunate, who in fixteen fhips brought home but eighteen and a half whales.

Ships arriving at, and departing from, the ports following, in the courfe of the year 1759, viz.

I. At Cadiz, fix hundred and two fhips, viz.

	Ships.
Englifh — — —	114
Dutch — — —	155
Spanifh — — —	195
French — — —	19
Portuguefe — — —	23
Swedifh — — —	17
Danifh — — —	24
Genoefe — — —	13
Imperial — — —	16
Venetian — — —	2
Neapolitan — — —	7
Ragufan — — —	13
Maltefe — — —	7

This much fmaller number than ufual, efpecially of Englifh, is owing to the war.

II. At Dantzic, fix hundred and twenty-fix fhips arrived.

III. At

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1759 III. At Koningsberg, the capital of Prussia, eight hundred and twenty ships arrived, and seven hundred and fifty-eight sailed.

IV. At Riga, six hundred and seventy-one ships arrived, and six hundred and sixty-nine failed.

From the Dutch newspapers we learn, that during the said year 1759, there passed through the Sound, into the Baltic Sea, three thousand two hundred and eighty-nine ships of different nations; and three thousand five hundred and sixty-eight ships re-passed the same.

Now, as by far the most of the two thousand one hundred and seventeen ships, said to be arrived at the above-named three cities in the Baltic must have been part of the said three thousand two hundred and eighty-nine ships, the remaining one thousand one hundred and seventy-two ships must have been mostly bound for Copenhagen, Lubeck, Stetin, Stockholm, and Petersburg, and probably most of them to Petersburg, the other ports in the Baltic, as Rostock, Wismar, Revel, Narvel, &c. being much less considerable in commerce. This, though but a short, and in some sense, but a conjectural view of the navigation and trade to the Baltic, may, however, in some degree enable us to form an adequate idea of it.

At Venice, within the compass of the year 1759, there arrived one thousand seven hundred and eighty-one ships and vessels, of various kinds and sizes, 1781.

And, in the course of the year 1759, there were born in the city of Venice, five thousand one hundred and seventy-two children; and there died six thousand eight hundred and fifty-two persons: which last number being multiplied by thirty, the usual computation of persons, out of which last-named number one dies annually in great and populous cities, will give two hundred and five thousand five hundred and sixty, for the number of souls remaining alive in the said city of Venice.

1760 At Rome, a lustrum, lustration, or census, of the people living in that city at Easter, in this year 1760, was taken; whereby it appeared, that they amounted to one hundred and fifty-five thousand one hundred and eighty-four inhabitants, viz.

Secular Priests	—	2,827
Monks	—	3,847
Nuns	—	1,910
Students	—	7,065
Poor in alms-houses	—	1,470
Negroes	—	7
Persons not professing the Catholic religion	—	52
		11,178
The remaining inhabitants, being laity	—	144,006
	Total	155,184 Persons.

Which computation nearly agrees with Keysler's, in our Appendix.

By a further account, there were born in Rome, between Easter 1759 and Easter 1760, five thousand three hundred and eighteen children; and there died there seven thousand one hundred and eighty-one persons: which last number, multiplied by thirty, gives the whole

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1760 number of its inhabitants, viz. two hundred and fifteen thousand four hundred and thirty persons.

Yet, on account of above eleven thousand persons grown up professing celibacy, if the number dying yearly be multiplied by twenty-two it will come nearer the truth, or one hundred and fifty-seven thousand nine hundred and eighty-two, beside those of the Jewish nation.

But this last calculation comprehended not only the eighty-one parishes within the walls of that city, but likewise a circular district of five or six miles without the city: where there are vineyards, scattered houses, &c.

A judicious pamphlet appearing in print in the month of April of this year 1760, entitled, The Interest of Great Britain considered, with regard to her Colonies, &c. tending to shew the absolute expediency of Britain's retaining the entire country of Canada, as the only solid safety and security of our continental colonies:—we shall here transcribe from this very able author, his account of the trade of the northern or continental colonies, compared with that of our West India isles; taken from the following authentic accounts, laid before the Board of Trade and Plantations, viz.

From the year 1744 to 1748, inclusive, exported,

I. To the Northern Colonies from Britain,			To the West India Islands from Britain,			
		£.				£.
1744	—	640,000	—	—	—	796,000
1745	—	534,000	—	—	—	503,000
1746	—	754,000	—	—	—	472,000
1747	—	726,000	—	—	—	856,000
1748	—	830,000	—	—	—	734,000
	Total	3,484,000				3,361,000
				Difference	—	123,000
II. From 1754 to 1758, viz.						
1754	—	1,246,000	—	—	—	685,000
1755	—	1,177,000	—	—	—	694,000
1756	—	1,428,000	—	—	—	733,000
1757	—	1,727,000	—	—	—	776,000
1758	—	1,832,000	—	—	—	877,000
	Total	7,410,000	—	—	—	3,765,000
			Difference in favour of our Northern Colonies	-	-	£. 3,645,000

Remarks:

1. The odd sums under one thousand pounds are omitted, as too minute in this account.

This author observes, that the trade to our continental colonies in America is not only greater than that to our West India colonies, but is also annually increasing with the increase of their people, and even in a greater proportion, as the people increase in wealth and in their ability of spending, as well as in numbers. But he adds, what to us appears at least somewhat improbable, viz. that the number of people in the said northern or continental colonies, have

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1760 have been obferved to double in about twenty-five years, exclufive of the acceffion of ftrangers; for which he alfo appeals to the accounts fent over to the Board of Trade.

3. The vaft annual increafe of our exports to the continental colonies in the laft-named five years, may probably be in part owing to the money remitted from hence in thofe years for the expence of our war againft the French in Canada, as well as to the faid great increafe of thofe colonies.

4. He alleges, that our exports to the fingle province of Pennfylvania have, in the laft twenty-eight years, increafed nearly in the proportion of feventeen to one.

5. With refpect to the trite objection, that the growth of the faid continental colonies may render them dangerous, in refpect of the difficulty of retaining them in due fubjection to the British empire; he *(but this is not the proper place to obferve upon the fatal contradiction which fucceeding times have given to his opinion)* thinks it fcarcely merits an anfwer, as we have fourteen feparate governments there; having not only different governors and different conftitutions, but likewife different interefts, and in fome of them different religious perfuafions: and their jealoufy of each other is already fo great, that however neceffary an union of the colonies has long been thought by them all, for their common defence and fecurity againft their common enemies; yet they have never been able to effect it, nor even to agree in applying to their mother-country for the eftablifhing of fuch an union.

Too much can fcarcely be faid in praife of the vaft improvements made in our fifter kingdom of Ireland, in refpect to commerce and manufactures, fince the acceffion of his Majefty King George the Second to the throne of thefe kingdoms. An Effay on the ancient and modern State of Ireland, publifhed, at Dublin and London, in this year 1760, briefly defcribes the fame with juftice and propriety, p, 49, 50, viz. "In this reign, and not before, our li-" nen manufacture, in many refpects one of the moft profitable branches of our national " commerce, has received all the encouragement from royal bounty and parliamentary fanc-" tion, that could be reafonably hoped for.

" Perfons of the higheft rank, dignity, and fortune, were appointed truftees for the pro-" pagation, encouragement, and diffufion of this beneficial trade throughout the refpective " provinces.

" The Linen Hall was erected in Dublin, under as juft and well-imagined regulations as any commercial houfe in Europe.

" The north of Ireland began to wear an afpect entirely new; and from being (through " want of induftry, bufinefs, and tillage, the almoft exhaufted nurfery of our American Plan-" tations foon became a populous fcene of improvement, traffic, wealth, and plenty; and is " at this day a well planted diftrict, confiderable for numbers of well-affected, ufeful, and in-" duftrious fubjects."

" ——We no where, abftracted from our own country, meet with a fet of pious Patriots " (in the ever honourable Dublin Society) from their private [illegible]s adorning their country in " general, in every degree and branch of induftry and impr[illegible]ent; and infpired with fen-" timents truly public and focial, munificently rewarding their countrymen, of whatfoever " denomination, without favour or diftinction, for meliorating their proper eftates or farms, " —for excelling in any production of nature or art;—for any difcovery or invention ufeful " to mankind."

This fociety, which, for fome years before, was merely a voluntary one, was incorporated in the year 1750.—Here, however, our author feems to have forgotten, that at London we

 have

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1760 have had, for a few years paſt, (*i. e.* ever ſince the year 1754) a more ſplendid, numerous and increaſing ſociety of the like nature and conſtitution; and alſo another for Scotland, at Edinburgh.

Page ſixtieth, " The trade of Ireland, however in former times miſerably reſtrained and " limited, hath in this happy reign received conſiderable enlargements; ſuch as, the opening " of ſeveral wool ports. The bounty on Iriſh linens, now our ſtaple commodity imported " into Great Britain, and the immunity lately granted of importing thither beef, butter, tal- " low, candles, pork, hides, live cattle, &c. a privilege that, in its conſequences, muſt prove " of ſignal advantage to both nations; to this eſpecially, as we ſhall hereby be enabled, upon " any occaſional emergency, to ſupply our protecting friends, and proportionably ſtint the " hands of our enemies, who (by the profuſion of wines and ſpirituous liquors, annually ex- " ported from France to Ireland, in exchange for our beef, butter, &c. to paſs over the glut " of teas and ſpirits, &c. ſmuggled thence by the weſtern runners) have conſtantly the balance " on their ſide. Our exports, with thoſe already mentioned, conſiſt in a few cheeſes, ſalmon " and kelp. But as our linens are, without queſtion, become the vital ſpring of Iriſh com- " merce, it is matter of great concern, and equal ſurprize, that the other provinces do not " more univerſally and effectually follow the lucrative example of the North, ſince it is evi- " dent that nothing but equal induſtry can be wanting to render them equally flouriſhing; " yet the over-growth of graziers and ſtock-maſters is the ſtrongeſt indication that can be " of national waſte and decay in reſpect of inhabitants.

" Would not a foreigner ſtart, even at our humanity, as well as at our want of national " wiſdom and œconomy, on ſeeing the beſt arable grounds in the kingdom, in immenſe " tracts, wantonly enjoyed by the cattle of a few petulant individuals, and at the ſame junc- " ture our highways and ſtreets crowded with ſhoals of mendicant fellow-creatures, reduced, " through want of proper ſuſtenance, to the utmoſt diſtreſs. Would not a Frenchman give " a ſhrug extraordinary, at finding in every little inn, Bourdeaux, Claret, and Nantz brandy, " though, in all likelihood, not a morſel of Iriſh bread. It is much to be hoped, that when " the ſpirit of tillage ſhall become more general, we may have a ſufficient plenty of malt " liquors of our own native produce. Gardening is of late years ſo vaſtly improved amongſt " us, that we now have many curious plants, fruits and flowers, never heard of in former " times. Yet many intelligent perſons of all ranks complain much of the want of ſome eſta- " bliſhment in the way of a national bank, to ſecure popular credit and the kingdom from the " various alarming ſhocks it is ſo frequently incident to, on account of the failure of parti- " cular or private banks."

From Ireland we have further received the following diſagreeable accounts, from a judicious private hand; viz.

I. That ſince the year 1757, the quantity of the exportation of their linens has been gradually leſſening; and the following is its ſtate for two years paſt; viz.

Linens of all ſorts exported for one year, ended at Lady-day 1759,

	£.	s.	d.
14,093,431 yards; which valued, at a medium, at ſixteen-pence per yard, comes to — —	939,562	1	4
Ditto in 1760,			
13,375,456¼ yards, valued at ditto, per yard, —	891,697	1	8
717,974¾ yards, decreaſed. Valued at ditto,	47,864	19	8

Poſſibly

A. D. 1760 Poſſibly the annual increaſe of the linen manufacture of Scotland may partly, if not entirely, account for this decreaſe in Ireland.

That the quantity of Iriſh linens ſo exported, is excluſive of what is conſumed within that kingdom. And that the quantity of linen yarn annually exported to Great Britain is nearly equal in value to the yarn that is conſumed, or wove up into the ſaid exported linens.

Our ſaid correſpondent has tranſmitted to us, by way of anſwer to our requeſt, of knowing how many cities there may be in Ireland, of twenty thouſand inhabitants and upwards, the following account for the year 1760; viz.

I. Dublin city, in the year 1760, contained thirteen thouſand four hundred and ſixty-one houſes. The author of the new Geography of Ireland, printed at Dublin, in the year 1752, gives to Dublin city no fewer than nineteen thouſand three hundred and fifty-two houſes; in which ſurely he has gone greatly beyond the truth: which firſt-named number, multiplied by ſeven, or allowing ſeven perſons to each houſe, on an average, being very probably near the fact, makes its people amount to ninety-four thouſand two hundred and twenty-ſeven.

This account of the magnitude of Dublin, by no means agrees with the generally received rule of multiplying the total number of perſons dying annually, by thirty-three, if in ſmall and healthy places, or in the open country; or by thirty, if in great cities, where debauchery and the uſe of ſpirituous liquors are prevalent. Seeing all the mortality bills which we have met with of Dublin come ſhort of two thouſand perſons yearly; which laſt number being multiplied even by thirty-three, (the healthieſt number) gives but ſixty-ſix thouſand perſons: we have therefore ground to conclude, that in this, and many other inſtances, the accounts received of the annual mortality bills in general, are far from being to be depended on; as, in the inſtances of Newcaſtle, Mancheſter, Liverpool, Birmingham, &c. at home, and of Hamburg, and other cities beyond ſea, plainly enough appear.

II. Cork city contained eight thouſand two hundred and ſixty-eight houſes, and, by the ſame computation, fifty-ſeven thouſand eight hundred and ſeventy-ſix inhabitants.

The city of Cork in Ireland has long been famous for her immenſe annual exportations to foreign parts, and more eſpecially to our own American iſland colonies, of ſalt proviſions, &c. beef, pork, and butter, alſo of cheeſe, hides, &c. The ſaid Iriſh geographer gives to Cork eight thouſand ſeven hundred and twenty-ſix houſes.

III. Limerick city contained three thouſand ſix hundred and forty houſes, and twenty-five thouſand four hundred and eighty inhabitants.

The city of Limerick is finely ſituated on the great river Shannon, for the Weſt India and other trades; the ſame may be ſaid as of Cork, though not in ſo great a degree. The above-quoted Iriſh geographer gives to Limerick three thouſand nine hundred and fifty-nine houſes.

IV. And Waterford city contained three thouſand two hundred and eighty-four houſes, and twenty-two thouſand nine hundred and eighty-eight inhabitants.

Waterford is alſo a well-traded port, on the eaſt ſide of Ireland, with a conſiderable reſort of ſhipping. The above-quoted Iriſh geographer gives to Waterford but two thouſand ſix hundred and thirty-ſeven houſes.

The ſupplies granted by the Parliament of Great Britain for the ſervice of the year 1760, amounted to ſo vaſt a ſum as fifteen millions five hundred and three thouſand five hundred and ſixty-four pounds fifteen ſhillings and nine-pence halfpenny.

In the former part of this year 1760, the Dutch Eaſt India Company divided fifteen per cent. amongſt their proprietors for the preceding year's dividend. And as that company's

 capital

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1760 capital ſtock uſually ſold at from three hundred and ninety-ſeven per cent. to four hundred and ten, we will ſuppoſe four hundred per cent. to be the mean price, (for the ſake of a round number) then the purchaſers at this time made three three-fourths per cent. of their money; which, conſidering the fluctuating ſtate of ſuch trading ſocieties, proceeding from various loſſes, &c. is far from an alluring dividend.

In this ſame year we were informed, that the Dutch Weſt India Company divided two and a half per cent. for one year paſt, their long decayed ſtock uſually ſelling at from thirty-two to thirty-three per cent. Theſe dividends being duly conſidered, we are not to think it ſtrange that the monied people of Holland are ſo deeply concerned in the Britiſh national funds, even though at the low intereſt of three per cent. as the ſaid intereſt is ſo certainly and punctually paid, without any riſque; excepting the fluctuating of the daily market prices of the funds, and the commiſſions to their agents here.

The high prices of ſpirituous liquors manufactured in Great Britain, wiſely occaſioned by ſome late ſtatutes, having greatly leſſened the conſumption thereof amongſt the commonalty, and thereby contributed very much to their health, ſobriety and induſtry; for the prevention of the return of former miſchiefs, an act of Parliament paſſed in this thirty-third year of King George II. For preventing the exceſſive Uſe of Spirituous Liquors, by laying additional Duties thereon: and for encouraging the Exportation of Britiſh-made Spirits, &c.—Which law has further contributed to the ſaid ſalutary end, which, however, is unneceſſary to be enlarged on in this work.

Several other good laws were made in the ſaid ſeſſion of Parliament, for the eaſe of commerce, and convenience and ſafety of the people: ſuch as,

Firſt, That for further extending the time limited for the importation of ſalted beef, pork and butter from Ireland; ſtill further continued by the ſeſſion, in the year 1761.

Secondly, The removing the gunpowder magazine from its preſent ſituation at Greenwich, where it was ſo dangerous, to Purfleet, a place of greater ſafety.

Thirdly, For the further enlarging and improving the fortifications and docks of Portſmouth, Chatham, and Plymouth.

Fourthly, For the further preventing of frauds relating to the cuſtoms, and the granting liberty to export the rice of and from Carolina, directly to any part of Europe, ſouth of Cape Finiſterre, in ſhips navigated according to law. And,

Fifthly, That for widening of certain ſtreets, lanes, &c. in the city of London, and for opening certain new ſtreets, and clearing away of many nuiſances therein, for the convenience of carriages and paſſengers; ſo that this noble city already begins to wear a new and more elegant face, by its old and narrow gates being removed, new and airy openings made, and many more intended. Whereby, it is to be hoped, her moſt wealthy citizens will no longer have reaſon to remove into the weſtern ſuburbs, under pretence of the want of free and freſh air, but will end their days with comfort and ſatisfaction, in the places where Providence had bleſſed their induſtry with plentiful fortunes.

His Majeſty of Great Britain, toward the cloſe of this year, incorporated Fort Marlborough, at or near Bencoolen, in the iſland of Sumatra in the Eaſt Indies, by the name of the Mayor and Aldermen of Fort Marlborough. Yet in this ſame year the French found means to ſurprize this place.

The ſame worthy Dutch merchant, who had ſupplied us with a liſt of the number of people contained in each of nineteen of the moſt principal towns of the ſingle province of Holland,

 which

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1760 which we have given in our appendix, obliged us alfo with the current prices of the Dutch Eaft India and Weft India Companies refpective capital ftocks, during nine months of the prefent year 1760, viz. from January to September, both included, during which time the higheft price of their Eaft India Company's ftock was four hundred and thirteen per cent. and fluctuated between that price and three hundred and eighty-two, its loweft price: difference thirty-one per cent. And in the fame time, the higheft price of their Weft India Company's ftock was thirty-three one-fourth per cent. and its loweft price was twenty-nine three-fourths, the difference being three one-half per cent.

On the eighth of September 1760, the town of Montreal, together with the reft of Canada, was by capitulation furrendered by the French Governor Vaudreuil, to Major General Amherft, commander in chief of the forces of his Britannic Majefty.

From this acquifition, how vaft an addition of territory then accrued to the Britifh empire in America; how much greater fafety and fecurity did the ancient continental colonies thereby obtain, in removing from behind them fo enterprifing, reftlefs, and perfidious a nation? and, which is of much more importance to us, we alfo thereby become poffeffed of all the fur and peltry trade of that continent which we did not before enjoy, in exchange for our coarfe woollen and other manufactures, iron tools of many kinds, kitchen and houfhold furniture, with other copper and brafs utenfils, lead-fhot, gunpowder, firelocks, fwords, &c. but we wifh we could not add, rum in great quantities, fo greatly debauching the morals, &c. of the Indians. How great an increafe of our national commerce then muft this acquifition be, even in our days; and how much more will it not probably be improved in future ages, when our Indian traders and wood rangers will undoubtedly difcover many new nations to traffic with, very far back, or weftward, into that vaft country; until they at length, and it is to be hoped very foon, fhall open or difcover a way to the ocean of Japan and China: a difcovery which, in the womb of Providence, may, and probably will, be attended with great, and perhaps very furprifing alterations in the courfe of commerce; a difcovery too, which will infallibly enable us to determine the fo long controverted, and fo frequently in vain attempted point, of a north-weft paffage by fea to the faid eaftern parts of Afia, and the extreme weftern parts of America, by a fhorter and fafer courfe than from Hudfon's Bay, without any future frefh attempts from fo miferable a fhore, where it is at prefent fo unlikely ever to be found. And well worth any reafonable expence it will be found to be, to fet about fuch a weftern journey, with Indian guides, as foon as poffible.

That part of Sweden, fituated at the further north end of that kingdom, and known by the name of Lapmarck, adjoining to Lapland, has very lately been fo much improved and civilized, that in the diet of Sweden, at the clofe of this year 1760, the fpeaker of the houfe of peafants (*i. e.* farmers) tells their King, in expreffion of their gratitude for his goodnefs and care of that northern part of his dominions, " That thofe parts which have hitherto appeared " wild, uncultivated, and moftly uninhabited, wear at prefent a quite different face, being " now covered with dwellings, and its lands cultivated; and for the firft time, fays he, fince " the creation of the world, this new people appear in the diet with us, by their reprefenta- " tives. How would it rejoice our hearts, to fee our dear country extend its bounds more " and more, by the draining of moraffes, and other lands covered with water, and by the " peopling of defarts."

The following mortality accounts, &c. of foreign and fome Britifh places, for or during the year 1760, are all that we have been able to procure; and even fome of thofe are too doubtful to be entirely depended on, viz.

At

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1760 At Amfterdam, in the year 1760. Buried, feven thoufand feven hundred perfons. Ships arrived in the Texel, one thoufand four hundred and twelve of different nations.

At the Hague, in the year 1670—Buried one thoufand and ninety perfons.

At Hamburg, in its five parifh churches.—Chriftened, two thoufand fix hundred and eighty one children; nine hundred forty-eight couple married; and one thoufand nine hnndred and twenty-two perfons buried. But this account of burials from the Dutch newfpapers, concerning Hamburg, is exclufive of its fuburbs.

At Vienna, during the year 1760, viz.—Born, five thoufand one hundred and ninety-three. Buried, fix thoufand three hundred and twenty.

At Stockholm.—Born, two thoufand one hundred and twenty. Buried, three thoufand three hundred and feventy-eight.

At or in the entire ifland of Zealand, including the capital city of Denmark, Copenhagen. —Born, nine thoufand five hundred and forty-five. Buried ten thoufand and fourteen perfons.

It is generally faid there are about nine hundred parifhes in this fruitful ifle of Zealand; and as there are alfo feveral towns and villages in it, this Dutch account cannot be exact without making Copenhagen lefs confiderable than Stockholm, the capital of Sweden, which alfo the Danes themfelves, whom we have confulted, readily acknowledge. yet Copenhagen is, without doubt, the finer city of the two.

At Paris.—Born, nineteen thoufand and fifty-eight; of which number there were about five thoufand foundlings. Buried, eighteen thoufand four hundred and forty-fix.

At London, by the parifh clerks printed accounts.—Born, fourteen thoufand nine hundred and fifty-one, exclufive of foundlings. Buried, nineteen thoufand eight hundred and thirty perfons.

At Dublin.—Born, one thoufand feven hundred and fifteen. Buried, one thoufand nine hundred and ninety-three; and, by a medium of three years, one thoufand eight hundred and eighty two two-thirds buried.

At Norwich.—Born, one thoufand and thirty-five. Buried, one thoufand and fixty four.—Decreafed in the burials, three hundred and fixty-three perfons.

At Liverpool.—Born, feven hundred and feventy-four. Buried, feven hundred and feventeen.—Decreafed in the burials, two hundred and fixty-four perfons.

At Newcaftle upon Tyne.—Born, fix hundred and eighty-eight. Buried, five hundred and twenty-two.

The city of Glafgow, in the year 1759, buried one thoufand and thirty-four perfons; but for this year 1760, we have feen no account; yet in 1761, their bill of mortality was but nine hundred and five perfons.

The towns of Manchefter and Birmingham have each, of late years, been faid to have buried about, or fomewhat above nine hundred perfons yearly; yet Manchefter is, by moft people, thought to be confiderably larger than Birmingham: and, with refpect to both places, and alfo to Liverpool, Norwich, and Newcaftle, we are perfuaded the yearly mortality accounts are much under-rated; which confideration will, we hope, excite a legal or authoritative enquiry into this fubject.

It is much to be wifhed that our own great and manufacturing towns of Exeter, Taunton, Froome, Devizes, Worcefter, Birmingham, Manchefter, Leeds, Halifax, Sheffield, Coventry, Wolverhampton, Norwich, Colchefter, Canterbury, &c. were legally obliged to tranfmit to

the

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1760 the Boar dof Trade and Plantations, exact annual accounts of their burials and births; as an obvious good use might be made of such a regulation.

Scotland's linen manufacture still continues to increase by large strides every year.

For, during the year 1759, there was stamped for sale, beside the very considerable quantities manufactured yearly by private families, for their own use,

	Yards.		*Value.* £. s. d. *Sterling.*
	10,830,707	—	451,390 17 3
And in the year 1760	11,747,728	—	522,153 10 4
Increased in 1760	917,021	Increased in value	71,762 13 1

On the nineteenth of March 1761, an end was put to the eleventh British Parliament; at the conclusion whereof it appeared, that there had been actually granted for the supplies of the year 1691, so vast a sum, as would formerly, that is, but half a century ago, have been thought impossible for the British nation to have raised in one year, viz. no less than eighteen million eight hundred and sixteen thousand and nineteen pounds nineteen shillings and ninepence three-farthings sterling, for the services of that year, and for certain arrears incurred in some former years.

We shall here give our readers the separate heads of so vast and unparalleled an expence, as published in the common newspapers, being well worth the recording, as a matchless proof of the increase of our riches by commerce, and of what the British nation can do upon a great emergency, though indeed not what, in times of tranquillity, it can prudently pretend to do, viz.

1. Sea Service.

	£.	s.	d.
For seventy thousand seamen, including eighteen thousand three hundred and fifty-five marines, for the ordinary of the navy, naval hospitals at Portsmouth and Plymouth, transport and victualling service, navy debt, building and repairs of King's ships, —	5,594,790	7	0
2. Ordnance, — — — —	728,716	13	11

3. Land Service.

For sixty-four thousand nine hundred and seventy-one men, (including four thousand and eight invalids) for guards, garrisons in Great Britain, Germany, the plantations, Africa, and East India:—General and staff-officers:—The new militia in England:—Thirty-nine thousand seven hundred and thirty-three troops of Hanover:—Two thousand one hundred and twenty horse, and nine thousand nine hundred foot of Hesse; and one thousand five hundred and seventy-six horse, and eight thousand eight hundred additional Hessian foot:—One thousand two hundred and five horse, and two thousand two hundred and eight foot of Brunswick, with deficiency thereon last year:—For five artillery battalions in Germany:—Ex-

Carried over, 6,323,507 0 11

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1760

	£.	s.	d.
Brought over,	6,323,507	0	11
tra expences, in the year 1760:—Forage, bread waggons, artillery, &c.—Reduced officers and troopers in horse-guards, &c.—Chelsea out-pensioners:—Other extra expences, in the year 1760:—Extraordinaries to the Chancery at War at Hanover, in the years 1757 and 1758:—Embodied militia, 1761, &c. — —	7,625,193	1	$4\frac{1}{2}$

4. VARIOUS SERVICES, viz.

Supply of credit of last session—London-bridge repairs—Exchequer bills, in the year 1760—To the King of Prussia—To certain provinces in North America—To the East India Company—For Nova Scotia and Georgia—For Exchequer bills for navy debt—The charge of the mints—The foundling hospital—The African settlements—Debts paid off on Lord Lovat's estate—To the King for a supply of credit—To the Landgrave of Hesse Cassel —	4,650,404	4	$10\frac{3}{4}$

5. DEFICIENCES, viz.

To the sinking fund to July 5, 1760—To make good the deficiency of the malt duty—Of duties on offices and pensions—Of subsidy on poundage, &c.—On coffee and chocolate—Deficiency of last year's grants, &c. — — — — —	216,915	12	$7\frac{1}{2}$
Total,	18,816,019	19	$9\frac{3}{4}$

If under the year 1728, we took the liberty to recommend national frugality, as the best means for being eased of national incumbrances, how much greater reason have we now to urge similar salutary measures, when the present national debt is increased to at least double of what it was in that year.

By the first statute of the first year of the reign of his Britannic Majesty King George the Third, entitled, An Act for the Support of his Majesty's Houshold, and of the Honour and Dignity of the Crown of Great Britain,—it was, in substance, enacted, "That the revenue "of his Majesty's civil list (or the support of his houshold, &c.) be a complete annual sum of "eight hundred thousand pounds, payable quarterly, clear of all incumbrances, and to arise "out of the aggregate fund, of which the unappropriated revenue of the post-office should "constitute a part, after the present legal weekly and annual payments thereout shall be satis- "fied. The said civil list revenue to be, during his Majesty's life, made up as follows, viz. "from the twenty-fifth of October 1760, the day of the demise of his late gracious Majesty "King George the Second, viz.

	£.
I. Out of the aggregate fund, for the present, the clear sum of —	723,000

During the continuance of the following annuities; *i. e.* of fifty thousand pounds to her Royal highness the Princess Dowager of Wales.—Of fifteen thousand pounds to his Royal Highness the Duke of Cumberland.—And of twelve thousand pounds, (total seventy-seven thousand pounds) to her Royal Highness the Princess Amelia.

Carried over, 723,000

II. His

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	£.
Brought over	723,000
II. His Majeſty to have the ſaid annuities added to the before-named annual ſum of ſeven hundred and twenty-three thouſand pounds, as they ſhall reſpectively become vacant, ſo as at length the total of the ſaid three annuities, amounting to the ſum of — — — — — —	77,000
Shall, with the ſaid 723,000*l.* conſtitute the clear annual ſum of —	800,000

Saving, however, to his Majeſty, the revenue of the Dutchy of Cornwall, and the duties and revenues payable in Scotland to his late Majeſty during his life, and which are hereby continued during the life of his preſent Majeſty.

The permitting the importation of ſalted beef, pork, and butter, from Ireland, into Great Britain, having been found beneficial, the continuance thereof was, by a ſtatute of this ſame firſt year of King George the Third, cap. iv. further prolonged to the twenty-fourth of December 1761, notwithſtanding which the rates of fleſh meat at London ſtill continued to be ſo much higher than in former times, as, in many mens opinions, ſeemed to merit the particular conſideration of the legiſlature.

The exigencies of the nation, occaſioned by ſuch an expenſive war, obliged the legiſlature to what otherwiſe would have ſeemed a hardſhip on the labouring part of the people of Great Britain, viz. by a ſtatute of the firſt ſeſſion of Parliament, and in the firſt year of his Majeſty King George III. cap. vii. in the year 1761, entitled, An Act for granting to his Majeſty an additional Duty upon ſtrong Beer and Ale; and for raiſing the Sum of twelve millions, by way of Annuities and Lottery, to be charged on the ſaid Duty; and for further encouraging the Exportation of ſtrong Beer and Ale:

I. An additional duty, by way of exciſe, of three ſhillings per barrel was, from and after the twenty-fourth of January 1761, to be paid by the brewers of all beer and ale brewed for ſale, above ſix ſhillings the barrel.

II. For the barrel of two-penny ale, of Scotland, deſcribed in the ſeventh article of the Treaty of Union, there ſhall be paid ſuch a proportional part of three ſhillings, as two ſhillings bear to four ſhillings and nine-pence.

III. Strong beer or ale brewed after the twenty-fourth of January 1761, may be exported as merchandize, to foreign parts; for which an allowance of eight ſhillings per barrel ſhall be made to the brewer, by way of drawback.

IV. Moreover, one ſhilling per barrel exported is hereby to be allowed, by way of drawback, proved to have been brewed, after the twenty-fourth of January 1761, from malted corn, when barley is at twenty-four ſhillings per quarter or under.

It was hoped by many, that theſe two claſſes of this act might have reaſonably contented the London brewers, ſo as to prevent their raiſing on the victuallers the price of their ſtrong drink; and might alſo prevent their brewing the ſame in any reſpect weaker than formerly: both which would equally bear hard on the labouring poor. But the event has not anſwered that expectation.

It is almoſt ſuperfluous to remark, that of the ſaid twelve millions, eleven millions four hundred thouſand pounds are at three per cent. in redeemable annuities; and that the remaining ſix hundred thouſand pounds was to be raiſed by way of lottery, of ſixty thouſand tickets,

at

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1761 at ten pounds per ticket: each of the blank tickets to be entitled to fix pounds three fhillings per cent. annuity, and the prizes alfo to be a three per cent. annuity. And for the encouragement of fubfcribers to the faid twelve millions, a long annuity for ninety-nine years, from the fifth of January 1761, of one pound two fhillings and fix-pence per each one hundred pounds of the faid eleven millions four hundred thoufand pounds three per cent. redeemable annuities was allowed to them.

The Britifh ftatute of the fixth year of King George the Second, cap. xiii. in the year 1733, For the better fecuring and encouraging the Trade of his Majefty's Sugar Colonies in America; already exhibited by us under the faid year, being now near expiring, after feveral fubfequent acts for its continuance; is, by a ftatute of this firft feffion of the firft year of King George the Third, cap. ix. further continued to Michaelmas 1763, and from thence to the end of the then next feffion of Parliament.

And by cap. x. of the faid feffion of Parliament, the act of the thirty-fecond of King George the Second, To difcontinue for a limited Time the Duties payable on tallow imported from Ireland, having been found of great utility and benefit to the public; and, if extended to hog's-lard and greafe, would be of further utility; wherefore the faid act is now accordingly extended to hog's-lard and greafe, during the continuance of the faid act. By which it is to be hoped the extravagant prices of tallow candles, which fo much affect the manufacturers and labouring poor, may be reafonably reduced.

And, left the importers of gold and filver into the mints of England and Scotland fhould be difcouraged through any deficiency of the revenue eftablifhed by various laws, For the Encouragement of the Coinage of Money, an act of the faid feffion, cap. xvi. now paffed, further to continue the duties for that end.

Having, under the preceding year, given a brief account of the four principal cities of Ireland, in refpect of magnitude and commerce, we fhall, under this year, exhibit the beft account we could procure, of all the cities and towns of Great Britain, London excepted, which contain upwards of twenty thoufand inhabitants, viz.

I. Briftol is univerfally allowed to be the largeft city in Great Britain, next after London. The anonymous author of England's Gazetteer, publifhed in the year 1751, makes her to contain thirteen thoufand houfes and ninety-five thoufand fouls. When the author of this work was there in the year 1758, he perambulated it for two fucceffive days, and from a near examination of the number of houfes on new foundations, and even of entire new ftreets, erected fince the faid year 1751, he imagined he could not hefitate in concluding it to contain about one hundred thoufand fouls, or to be about the magnitude of that part of London which is contained within her ancient walls. It is confeffed, that London, within that limited compafs, appears to be more populous, or to have more people appearing abroad in her ftreets; but that we apprehend to be occafioned chiefly by its communication with her vaftly extended fuburbs, her immenfe commerce and fhipping, the greater refort of foreigners, and the near refidence of the court, nobility, gentry, and lawyers: whereas in the ftreets of Briftol, which are more remote from the harbour and fhipping, the inhabitants are moftly either private families living on their means, or elfe manufacturers and workmen of many various kinds employed altogether or moftly within doors. We have met with fome Irifh gentlemen who are of opinion that the city of Dublin is larger than Briftol, for which they allege the fame reafon as above-mentioned for London within her walls; and to which, we conceive, it may be anfwered, that, Dublin being the refidence of the chief governors; of all the public offices and of-

A. D. 1761 ficers; of the guards, the nobility and gentry, with their numerous retinues, and of the courts of justice, as well as of the Parliaments; these circumstances may occasion a greater appearance of people in her streets, without her being really larger than Bristol.

II. Edinburgh, being the usual residence of the courts of justice of Scotland, of the police, the boards of custom and excise, of lawyers attending on pleas, beside merchants, manufacturers, &c. and of a learned and well frequented university; with all its suburbs and its proper port of Leith, may fairly be allowed to contain at least sixty thousand inhabitants.

III. Norwich is by many thought to contain upwards of seven thousand five hundred houses, many of which are crowded with inmates of manufacturing people; if therefore eight people be allowed, on an average, to each house, it may contain sixty thousand souls. Or if, according to others, there be only seven thousand houses, and that seven persons to each house be sufficient, then forty-nine thousand may be nearly the number of its inhabitants. But we conjecture the first-named computation nearest to the truth.

We may here, by way of corollary, remark, that Norwich has, for many ages, and more especially for two centuries past, been very eminent for the noblest manufacture of the finest stuffs in the world, of various kinds, with which she not only supplies our own people in immense quantities, but likewise most foreign nations, and also the American colonies; whereby her manufacturers accumulate much wealth.

IV. Manchester, in Lancashire, merely as a town, though without being so much as a a corporation, has probably more inhabitants than any other not already mentioned, and abounds so much with great variety of excellent manufactures of cottons, tickens, &c. as to employ many thousands of journeymen weavers, beside other workmen, women, and children, constantly employed, both for the foreign and home demand of those goods: insomuch, that Manchester is swelled to the bulk of a great city; many reckoning it to contain from fifty to sixty thousand people; and with its manufactures is daily encreasing in extent and population.

V. Liverpool, in the same county, in point of a vastly-extended foreign commerce and mercantile shipping, is long since become undoubtedly the greatest and most opulent sea-port in the kingdom, next after London and Bristol; probably employing about three hundred sail of her own greater and lesser shipping, mostly in the Guinea and American trades, and is now said to be thrice as large and populous as it was at the accession of the late King William and Queen Mary to the crown. In short, this most industrious people extend their commerce to all parts where they are not prevented by exclusive companies, and is thought to contain at this time from forty to fifty thousand inhabitants.

VI. Birmingham, in Warwickshire, (though still also, like Manchester, an unincorporated town) is, through the general increase of our national commerce, gradually grown up, more especially of later years, to the magnitude of a considerable city; by means of her vast, numerous, and most ingenious manufactures of iron, steel, and brass, or hard-ware, in an almost endless variety; such as, enamelled, landscaped, and polished steel snuff boxes, keys, locks, hinges, buckles, buttons, &c. not only for supplying ourselves and our own foreign plantations, but almost all the rest of the world therewith. This very busy place is reckoned to contain at least fifty thousand inhabitants.

VII. In much the same sort of employment has the populous town of Sheffield been more or less famous, even as far back as above four centuries past, partly by means of the iron stone in its vicinity, but of late much more by the general increase of the nation's foreign commerce. It has been peculiarly famous for the manufacture of knives and other cutlery-ware, as far

back

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1761 back as the poet Chaucer's time, in the reign of King Edward the Third, their knives being by that poet, as ſtill by the common people further north, called whittles. There are above ſix hundred maſter cutlers there, who are a corporation, by the name of the Cutlers of Hallamſhire, of which diſtrict in Yorkſhire, Sheffield is the principal town. Sheffield town is reputed to be two miles in length and one in breadth, and to employ about forty thouſand perſons in her iron manufactures, though not all living within the town. They have likewiſe a conſiderable trade in this town for corn and alum; and are more particularly noted for making the beſt of workmens files and other iron tools for various handicrafts. Yet ſo little curious are its inhabitants in ſpeculative reſearches, that we have not been able to learn, with any preciſion, the probable number of the inhabitants of ſo populous a town, as diſtinguiſhed from the reſt of Hallamſhire; though from ſundry circumſtances they may very probably conſiderably exceed twenty thouſand people.

VIII. Newcaſtle upon Tyne has been eminent, for ſeveral centuries paſt, for its immenſe and almoſt inexhauſtible ſtaple of pit coal, called at London ſea coal, becauſe coming thither only by ſea. It ſupplies not only London, and many other parts of the kingdom, with that moſt neceſſary fuel, but likewiſe ſundry foreign parts therewith, moſtly in her own ſtrong and numerous ſhipping, in the lading of all which from the pits to the ſhips at Shields, they employ five or ſix thouſand men called keelmen: here is alſo a great manufacture of glaſs bottles, and another of hardware or wrought iron of many ſorts. It is alſo noted for its grind-ſtones, of which great quantities are exported beyond ſea. But beyond all other national benefits, the coal trade of this town is peculiarly and eminently uſeful, on any emergency, for its great number of thorough-bred mariners for manning our navy royal. It has long been a very populous place, and, including its ſuburbs of Gateſhead and North and South Shields, may probably contain about or near ſixty thouſand inhabitants.

IX. Glaſgow is a beautiful and increaſing city of Scotland, abounding in many profitable manufactures, more eſpecially of the linen kind, in great variety and beauty. She has alſo a great number of good ſhipping, trading from her port of Greenock, as well to our Weſt India Sugar-iſles, as alſo to our continent colonies, more eſpecially to our two tobacco provinces: whereby ſhe is now ſaid to be arrived to the magnitude of twenty-ſix to twenty-ſeven thouſand inhabitants, who are generally reckoned eminent for induſtry and a prudent œconomy.

☞ Theſe we apprehend to be, with London, all the cities and towns of Great Britain which, in reſpect of magnitude, may certainly contain upwards of twenty thouſand inhabitants within their reſpective liberties, boundaries, and precincts. Yet there are many other cities and towns of England, which nearly approach to that number, as may in part be ſeen in our appendix.

On the fifteenth of January 1761, his Britannic Majeſty's naval and land forces, jointly with thoſe of our Eaſt India Company, made themſelves maſters of the moſt important city and port of Pondicherry, the principal ſettlement of France in the Eaſt Indies, and the center of all their commerce there. The great ſignificance of which conqueſt all the world is ſo well acquainted with, and the loſs of which their Eaſt India Company has already ſo ſadly felt, that it is quite unneceſſary to enlarge upon it.

His Britannic Majeſty's forces by ſea and land having invaded the iſle of Belle Iſle, on the coaſt and in ſight of the province of Bretagne, its very ſtrong citadel, called Palais, ſurrendered to our troops on the ſeventh day of June 1761. It is almoſt ſuperfluous to remark, how great a mortification and humiliation this conqueſt was to France, and how much this iſland now

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1761 became, in our hands, a bridle to all the remaining trade and navigation on the greateſt part of the weſt coaſt of that kingdom.

In July 1761, we had an account of the Britiſh ſea and land force having, on the fourth of June, his Britannic Majeſty's birth day, maſtered the iſland of Dominica, which was deemed one of the four neutral iſles in the Weſt Indies, although France, notwithſtanding, had planted and in part fortified it: it now contained about five hundred French inhabitants, beſide negro ſlaves, and a conſiderable number of native Caribbeans.

Notwithſtanding the calamities of South Carolina, during the greateſt part of this year 1761, occaſioned by their war with the Cherokee Indians againſt their back ſettlements, yet that beautiful and fruitful province improves ſo faſt, that in only ten months, viz. from November 1760 to September 1761, we had an account publiſhed of the following exported articles, viz.

From the port of Charleſtown cleared out.

Rice	100,000	barrels.
Pitch	6,376	
Tar	931	
Turpentine	4,808	
Oranges	144	
Ditto	161,000	looſe.
Pork and beef	1,149	barrels.
Bacon	13	
Indigo	399,366	pounds weight.
Deer ſkins	422	hogſheads.
Ditto	331	bundles.
Ditto	300	looſe.
Tanned leather	5,869	ſides.
Peas and corn	11,126	buſhels.
Bees wax	6,721	pounds weight.
Caſk ſtaves	236,850	pieces.
Shingles	522,167	
Boards, timber, &c.	466,186	feet.
Hoops	29,600	pieces.

Beſide ſmaller articles, as tobacco, furs, raccoon ſkins, roots, and ſeeds of various kinds; candles, butter, reeds, raw hides, tallow, hogs lard, myrtle wax, oil of turpentine, roſin, ſoap, trunnels, &c.

The chriſtenings, at Amſterdam, in the year 1761, four thouſand four hundred and eighty, and burials ſeven thouſand ſeven hundred.

☞ The great number of Jews and of other perſuaſions, who do not chriſten nor regiſter their children, occaſions ſo great a difference between the births and burials in that city.

Ships arriving at Amſterdam, during the year 1761, were one thouſand five hundred and eight ſhips.

Our accounts from Holland, at the cloſe of this year 1761, acquaint us, that the States General had then renewed the excluſive privileges of their Eaſt India Company, for thirty years longer.

At Koningſberg, the capital city of Brandenburg Pruſſia, during the year 1761, there were born one thouſand ſeven hundred and eighty, and buried one thouſand ſeven hundred and ſeventy

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1761 feventy perfons: which number, multiplied by thirty, dying yearly in large cities, makes fifty-three thoufand one hundred inhabitants. Or, by thirty-three, gives fifty-eight thoufand four hundred and ten inhabitants.

Sailed from thence, during the year 1761, nine hundred and forty-four laden fhips.

At Rome, by a late lift of her inhabitants, in the year 1761, there were of

	Perfons.
males — — — — — —	90,239
Of females — — — — —	67,219
Total inhabitants	157,458

Of which number there were then, of

Bifhops — — —	42
Priefts — — —	2,742
Religious and nuns — —	4,381
Monks — —	1,725
Students — —	878
Poor, in hofpitals, — —	1,053
Heretics, Turks, and Infidels, (the Jews excepted)	37
	10,858

Children born, four thoufand nine hundred and eighty-nine. Perfons died, feven thoufand one hundred and forty-nine. So that, inftead of multiplying the number of perfons dying in a year by thirty, to form a probable guefs at Rome's number of inhabitants, they fhould be multiplied by twenty-two, becaufe of the great number of ecclefiaftics, &c. nearly the real number of Rome's inhabitants, one hundred and fifty-feven thoufand two hundred and feventy-eight, Jews excepted. See the year 1760.

Extract from the General Bill of all the Christenings and Burials, within the City and Suburbs of London and the Compafs of the Bills of Mortality, from December 9, 1760, to December 15, 1761; printed by the Company of Parifh Clerks of London, viz.

Chriftened, Males, —	8,183	Buried, Males, —	10,668
Females, —	7,817	Females, —	10,395
In all,	16,000		21,063

Increafed in the burials this year one thoufand two hundred and thirty-three.

From the public regifters of the city of Paris, viz.

Chriftened, —	18,374	Buried,	17,674
Married, —	3,947 couple.	Foundlings,	5,418 Vide annum 1760.
Chriftened, — —	1,949	Buried, — —	2,292
Increafed in births, 299.		Increafed in the burials, 234.	
Births, — —	5,672	Burials, — —	6,310
Increafed this year, 479.		Decreafed, 10.	
Births, — —	2,749	Burials, — —	2,593

And

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1761 And in the entire island or province of Zealand, six thousand eight hundred and thirty-two were christened, and five thousand eight hundred and eighty-eight persons died, and one thousand nine hundred and fourteen couple were married. This must be a wrong account, it was taken from the Dutch newspapers.—See the year 1760.

☞ We cannot pretend to answer for transcripts from newspapers. Yet by comparing this year's accounts with those of former years, the truth may nearly be guessed at.

Ships arriving at the port of Cadiz, during the year 1761, viz.

			Ships.	
English	—	—	87	(whereof thirteen were ships of war).
Dutch	—	—	99	(whereof sixteen were ships of war).
Danish	—	—	41	
French	—	—	22	(whereof four were ships of war).
Spanish	—	—	195	(whereof thirty-two were ships of war).
Portuguese	—	—	19	
Imperial	—	—	11	
Ragusians	—	—	8	
Maltese	—	—	4	
Genoese	—	—	2	
Savoyards	—	—	1	
Neapolitan	—	—	5	
			494	

1762 In February of this year 1762, his Britannic Majesty's forces, by sea and land, made an entire conquest of the very important island of Martinico, which the French had so well supplied and fortified, as to have boasted, it could not be taken by any force we could send against it. It is well known to be the richest, most populous, and best cultivated colony which France had ever possessed in the American Seas. Its productions are the same with those of our own West India sugar isles, and in a superior degree. It had grievously distressed our American commerce with their numerous privateers, which determined his Majesty to send such a force against it as could hardly fail of success: a force so great as perhaps never was seen so far from Europe, and which therefore struck the greater terror in our enemies, and has raised the reputation and glory of the British empire to the highest degree.

In the month of March, the Dutch East India Company's General Court agreed to raise a dividend on their capital stock of fifteen per cent. to be paid to their proprietors in the month of May following, the current price of that company's capital stock being three hundred and thirty-two per cent.

The most industrious and superlatively mercantile town of Liverpool was, by this time, increased in buildings and people so much, that they found themselves obliged to apply to Parliament for the purpose of enabling them to erect two more parish churches and cemetries to the former four; which accordingly passed into a law in the spring of this year.

The King of Spain having, in this same year, most unprovokedly, joined France in a declaration of war against Great Britain, and at the same time, equally unprovoked, against Portugal, which she had most unaccountably invaded; it was resolved by his Britannic Majesty to augment the powerful land force which had conquered Martinico, and also the naval force

 which

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1762 which had so bravely co-operated in the conquest of that island; and to strike such a blow as Spain, in America, had never felt before: and with such an army and navy as America had never before seen. With this unheard of force in the West Indies, they landed on the great island of Cuba, and attacked the town and port of Havannah, although its fortifications were so many and so strong as to have till then been universally deemed impregnable, more especially as the sailors of eleven Spanish line of battle ships lying in the harbour, joined strenuously in the defence of the place; notwithstanding all which, the British land forces commanded by the gallant Earl of Albemarle, assisted by our navy and our most intrepid sailors, commanded by the no less gallant Sir George Pococke, Vice Admiral, mastered at length, on the thirteenth of August, that immensely strong city, the key of the treasures of Mexico and Peru, not only with all the treasure in that city, but with all the royal navy lying in its harbour, and a great number of richly-laden merchant ships, and an immense quantity of rich merchandize in the King's and merchants warehouses there: after which they made themselves masters of all the other forts, &c. of that great island. So important a conquest, with its consequences, and with the grievous mortification thereby given to the court of Spain, is easier to be conceived than described by us, being in fact the most momentous acquisition we had till then ever made in America.

In the summer of this same year 1762, the French surprized and took the harbour and fort of St. John's, in Newfoundland, where they did great mischief to the shipping, warehouses, &c. But Lord Colville and Lieutenant Colonel Amherst, from New York and Halifax, in their turn, surprized the French there, in this same summer, and re-took the said fort, making eight hundred Frenchmen prisoners, with all their stores, &c. And though the French had four ships of war there, having more cannon, tonnage, and sailors in them than Lord Colville's four ships had, yet they made all haste to get home to France, before his Lordship could get up to them. And thus an end was put to the short-lived triumph of France on that account.

On the sixth of October in this year, his Majesty's land and naval forces, jointly with those of our East India Company, under the command of Admiral Cornish and Brigadier General Draper, besieged and took the large city of Manilla, the capital of the great island of Luconia, the principal of the Spanish Phillippine Islands, which the British commanders permitted the Spanish governor to ransom for four millions of dollars.—That ransom, however, has never been paid.

In this same year, our naval force made a prize of a large Acapulco ship, valued at three millions of dollars.

Exchequer, 5th January 1762.

An ACCOUNT of the PUBLIC DEBTS of GREAT BRITAIN, standing out at the Exchequer, on the fifth of January, 1762, with the ANNUAL INTEREST and OTHER CHARGES payable for the same.

Debts still remaining payable at the Exchequer, viz.	*Principal Debt.* £. s. d.	*Annual Interest.* £ s. d.
1. Long annuities, unsubscribed into the South Sea Company, anno 1720 —	1,836,275 17 10	136,453 12 8
Carried forward £.	1,836,275 17 10	136,453 12 8

Debts

A. D. 1762

Debts still remaining and payable at the Exchequer, viz.	Principal Debt. £. s. d.	Annual Interest. £. s. d.
Brought forward	1,836,275 17 10	136,453 12 8
2. —— annuities for lives, with benefit of survivorship; the original sum contributed being	108,100 0 0	7,567 0 0
3. Ditto for two and three lives, being the sum remaining, after what is fallen in by deaths	76,005 14 10	9,215 12 0
4. Exchequer bills made out for interest on old bills — — —	2,200 0 0	
Total at the Exchequer £.	2,022,581 12 8	153,236 4 8

Note. The land taxes and duties on malt, being annual grants, are not charged in this account; neither is the million charged in th year 1726, on the deduction of six pence per pound on salaries and pensions, transferable at the Bank; (as not deemed a national debt). Nor the one million five hundred thousand pounds toward paying off the navy debt, &c. in the year 1761, nor the sum of one million charged on the supplies, 1762.

East India Company, viz.		
1. By two acts of Parliament of the ninth of King William the Third, and two other acts of the sixth and ninth of Queen Anne, now reduced to three per cent. interest, with allowances for charges of management to that company —	3,200,000 0 0	97,285 14 4
2. Annuities at three per cent. in the year 1744, charged on the surplus of additional duties on low wines, spirits, and strong waters,—and charge of management — —	1,000,000 0 0	30,401 15 8
Total at the East India House £.	4,200000 0 0	127,687 10 0

Bank of England, viz.		
1. On their original fund, reduced to three per cent. from the first of August 1743, with four thousand pounds allowed the Bank for management thereof — —	3,200,000 0 0	100,000 0 0
2. For cancelling Exchequer Bills, by the third year of King George I. — —	500,000 0 0	15,000 0 0
Carried forward £.	3,700,000 0 0	115,000 0 0

A. D. 1762

BANK OF ENGLAND, *continued.*	£.	s.	d.	*Principal Debt.* £.	s.	d.	*Annual Interest* £.	s.	d.
Brought forward				3,700,000	0	0	115,000	0	0
3. Purchased of the South Sea Company, in the year 1722, now at three per cent. with charge of management — —				4,020,000	0	0	121,898	3	5
4. Annuities at three per cent. charged on the duty on coals, from Lady-day 1719 —				1,750,000	0	0	52,500	0	0
5. Ditto, at three per cent. charged on the surplus of the funds for lottery 1714 —				1,250,000	0	0	37,500	0	0
6. Ditto, at ditto, in the year 1746, charged on the duty for licensing spirituous liquors, since Lady-day 1746 — —				986,800	0	0	29,604	0	0
7. Annuities, at three per cent. charged on the Sinking Fund by the twenty-fifth, twenty-eighth, twenty-ninth, thirty-second, and thirty-third of King George II. —	21,137,821	5	1						
8. Ditto, at ditto, charged on offices and pensions, &c. by the thirty-first of George II.	500,000	0	0						
9. Ditto, at ditto, charged on the additional duty on strong beer and ale by an act of the first of George III. —	11,400,000	0	0						
10. And ditto, at ditto, in lottery tickets, charged on the said fund by the said act, to make up twelve millions	600,000	0	0						
				33,637,821	5	1	1,020,838	5	8
11. Ditto, at three per cent. charged on the Sinking Fund, by the act of the twenty-fifth of George II. — —				17,701,323	16	4	540,996	14	0
12. Ditto, at three one-half per cent. charged on the said fund by the twenty-ninth of George II.				1,500,000	0	0	53,343	15	0
13. Ditto, at three one-half per cent. charged on the duties on offices and pensions, by the thirty-first of George II. — —				4,500,000	0	0	160,031	5	0
14. Ditto, at three one-half per cent. charged on the additional duty on malt, &c. by the act of thirty-third George II.	8,000,000	0	0						
Carried forward £.	8,000,000	0	0	69,025,945	1	5	2,131,712	3	1

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BANK OF ENGLAND, *continued.*	£.	s.	d.	*Principal Debt.* £.	s.	d.	*Annual Interest.* £.	s.	d.
Brought forward	8,000,000	0	0	69,025,945	1	5	2,131,712	3	1
15. Ditto, at four per cent. additional capital in lottery tickets on eight millions charged on the said fund by that act	240,000	0	0						
				8,240,000	0	0	334,235	0	0
				77,265,945	1	5	2,465,947	3	1
16. Memorandum—The subscribers of one hundred pounds to the lottery 1745, were allowed an annuity for one life of nine shillings per ticket, which amounted to twenty-five thousand five hundred pounds, but is now reduced, by lives fallen in, to —	18,812	15	0						
17. And the subscribers of one hundred pounds to the lottery 1746, were allowed an annuity of one life of eighteen shillings per ticket, which amounted to forty-five thousand pounds, but is now reduced, by lives fallen in, to —	38,216	0	0						
18. And the subscribers of one hundred pounds for three per cent. annuities, 1757, were allowed an annuity of one life, of one pound two shillings and six pence, which amounted to thirty three thousand seven hundred and fifty pounds, but is now reduced, by lives fallen in, to — —	30,937	2	6						
19. Lastly, The subscribers of one hundred pounds for three per cent. annuities 1761 were allowed an annuity of ninety-nine years, of one pound two shillings and six pence, amounting to	128,250	0	0						
Carried forward £.	216,215	17	6	77,265,945	1	5	2,464,947	3	1

BANK OF ENGLAND, *continued.*	£. s. d.	*Principal Debt.* £. s. d.	*Annual Payments* £. s. d.
Brought forward	216,215 17 6	77,265,945 1 5	2,464,947 3 1
All which annuities are an increase of the national debt; but cannot be added thereto, as no money was advanced for the same — —	216,215 17 6	.. . .	216,215 17 6
Total transferable at the Bank, on the 5th of January 1762 — —		77,265,945 1 5	
Total annual payments at the Bank		£.	2,682,163 0 7

☞ Of the before-named annual payment of two hundred and sixteen thousand two hundred and fifteen pounds seventeen shillings and six-pence, only one hundred and twenty-eight thousand two hundred and fifty pounds is transferable at the Bank, being the annuities for ninety-nine years: the other three sums for single lives are payable at the Exchequer, and are constantly decreasing.

Debts transferable at the SOUTH SEA HOUSE, *viz.*	£. s. d.	*Principal Debt.* £. s. d.	*Annual Payments* £. s. d.
1. On capital South Sea stock, as it at present stands, dividing three one-half per cent.	3,662,784 8 6		
2. On old South Sea annuity stock, at three per cent.	12,404,270 2 7		
3. On new South Sea annuity stock, at three per cent.	8,958,255 2 10		
Total unpaid off by the act of the ninth of George I.	25,025,309 13 11		
4. Annuities, at three per cent. in the year 1751, charged on the Sinking Fund —	2,100,000 0 0		
		27,125,309 13 11	829,507 8 1

RECAPITULATION:

	Principal Debt £. s. d.	Annual Payments £. s. d.
Total at the Exchequer — —	2,022,581 12 8	153,236 4 8
——— East India House — —	4,200,000 0 0	127,687 10 0
——— Bank — —	77,265,945 1 5	2,682,163 0 7
——— South Sea House —	27,125,309 13 11	829,507 8 1
Total national debts, and annual payments, on the 5th of January, 1762 — — } £.	110,613,836 8 0	3,792,594 3 4

N. B. The expence or charge of management is added to the annual interest due to the three great companies before-named; and as they shall at any time have part of their principal sum paid off, a proportionable part of their allowance for management will be deducted.

A. D. 1762 SUPPLIES granted by the BRITISH PARLIAMENT for the service of the year 1762, viz.

	£.
1. For naval services in general, including seventy thousand seamen, nineteen thousand and sixty-one marines, and one million toward paying off the navy debt	5,112,226
2. For the chapel at Gosport, one thousand pounds, and the hospital at Plymouth six thousand — — — — — —	7,000
3. For transports, and victualling them — — —	835,025
4. Ordnance for land service, including last year's extras — —	642,916
5. Sixty-seven thousand six hundred and seventy-six land forces, including four thousand and one invalids, one million six hundred and twenty-nine thousand three hundred and twenty-one pounds eighteen shillings and seven pence; and eight hundred and seventy-three thousand seven hundred and eighty pounds eighteen shillings and seven pence for forces in Plantations, Gibraltar, Africa, and the East Indies — — — — —	2,503,102
6. Four regiments on the Irish establishment, now in North America, twenty-three thousand two hundred and eighty-four pounds and six pence; and for an augmentation of nine thousand three hundred and seventy men, one hundred and sixty-three thousand seven hundred and eleven pounds twelve shillings and six pence — — — — —	186,995
7. General and staff officers, in Germany, &c. — — —	72,896
8. Embodied militia and Scots Highlanders, forty-four thousand nine hundred and fifty-two pounds ten shillings and ten pence; and cloathing for embodied militia, sixty thousand seven hundred and six pounds four shillings and one penny	504,658
9. Cloathing and pay of unembodied militia, twenty thousand pounds; and half pay land officers, thirty-four thousand three hundred and eighty-three pounds —	54,383
10. Superannuated and reduced horse-guards, two thousand nine hundred and fifty-two pounds thirteen shillings and four pence; and half-pay officers widows, married before the year 1716, one thousand eight hundred and thirty-eight pounds — — — — — —	4,790
11. Out-pensioners Chelsea Hospital — — — —	13,740
12. For thirty-nine thousand seven hundred and seventy-three men of Hanover, Wolfenbuttle, Saxe-Gotha, and Buckeburg, employed in Germany —	466,638
13. Five battalions in Germany, each of one hundred and one horse, and five hundred foot — — — — —	25,504
14. For one thousand four hundred and sixty-four horse and two thousand three hundred and thirty foot, from the Duke of Brunswick — —	68,008
15. For two thousand one hundred and twenty horse and nine thousand nine hundred and ninety foot, from the Landgrave of Hesse Cassel, with artillery, &c. — — — — — — —	268,360
16. For one thousand five hundred and seventy-six horse and eight thousand eight hundred foot from Hesse Cassel — — — —	147,171
17. Toward assisting his Majesty to grant reasonable succours in money to the Landgrave of Hesse Cassel — — — —	50,000
Carried forward £.	10,963,411

18. Extra-

A. D.
1762

	£.
Brought forward	10,963,411
18. Extraordinaries of land forces to November 1761, over and above one million granted by Parliament — — — —	1,353,662
19. Forage, bread, &c. and extraordinaries of the combined army under Prince Ferdinand — — — — —	1,000,000
20. Extraordinaries there, from twenty-fourth of November 1761, to December following — — — — —	958,384
21. Extraordinaries of the war 1762, and to assist the King of Portugal —	1,000,000
22. To discharge Exchequer Bills, charged on this year's aids —	1,000,000
23. Ditto, for bills issued in 1761, for navy debts, &c. — —	1,500,000
24. Civil establishment of Nova Scotia, five thousand six hundred and eighty-four pounds one shilling and ten pence; and of Georgia, four thousand fifty-seven pounds ten shillings — — — — —	9,741
25. A compensation to certain provinces in North America, for levying, cloathing, and pay of troops raised there — — —	133,333
26. To the East India Company, in lieu of a regiment there —	20,000
27. Towards widening London Bridge, fifteen thousand pounds; and a new bridge over the Tweed, four thousand pounds — —	19,000
28. To the Foundling Hospital, for maintenance of children —	41,752
29. For Annamaboo, and other forts in Africa — —	13,000
30. To make good to the Sinking Fund a malt duty deficiency —	16,540
31. Ditto deficiency of annuity fund of thirty-first George II. —	52,393
32. Ditto of annuity fund of first of George III. — —	103,906
33. Ditto of grants for the year 1761 — — —	112,613
34. To the Trustees of the British Museum — — —	2,000
35. For paving, &c. the streets of Westminster, and Middlesex out-parishes contiguous — — — —	5,000
36. For printing the Journals of the House of Commons — —	1,500
Total	£. 18,305,235

In all the preceding account we have rejected the odd shillings, pence, and farthings.

N. B. There was beside, a sum of two thousand one hundred and fourteen pounds, granted to make good a pension to the Right Honourable Mr. Onslow, and a yearly pension of three thousand pounds was granted to him, for his own and his son's life, out of the Aggregate Fund, free of all taxes, fees, &c. whatever.

WAYS AND MEANS for the Year 1762, viz.

1. Land Tax, at four shillings in the pound — —	2,000,000	0	0
2. Malt Duty — — — — —	750,000	0	0
3. By Exchequer Bills, to be current after March twenty-sixth, 1763	1,500,000	0	0
Carried forward £.	4,250,000	0	0

*4. By

A. D. 1762

	£.	s.	d.
Brought forward	4,250,000		0
*4 By nine million fix hundred thoufand pounds capital annuities, on every eighty pounds paid in, at four per cent. for nineteen years, and then to be reduced to three per cent. with an addition of one per cent. per annum for ninety-eight years on every twenty pounds paid in	12,000,000	0	0
5. Out of the Sinking Fund — — —	1,009,217	2	8
6. Surplus repaid out of the civil lift revenue of George II. —	115,000	0	0
7. Savings on fums formerly granted for unembodied militia, which was paid for as embodied — — — —	170,000	0	0
8. Surplus of three pence per bufhel on malt — —	73,678	0	0
9. Vote of credit, to be charged on next year's aids — —	1,000,000	0	0
£.	18,617,895	2	8

N. B. The furplus of ways and means is applicable to pay the deficiency of the land-tax and malt-duty of the year 1761.

* The fund for the above twelve millions of pounds charged collaterally on the finking fund, confifts of certain unappropriated furpluffes of duties on fpirituous liquors, an additional duty on fpirituous liquors, and on houfes and windows, where the windows do not exceed fifteen to a houfe.

A new duty alfo was granted on certain law admiffions, for anfwering the additional falaries to the judges.

By a ftatute of the fecond year of King George the Third, cap. vi. "For the more eafy "victualling of his Majefty's fhips, tranfports, &c. in his fervice," falted beef, pork, and butter, are permitted to be imported from Ireland duty free, and for none other purpofe, for one year, to end on the twenty-fourth of December 1762.

By another ftatute of the faid fecond year, cap. xv. "For the better fupplying the cities of "London and Weftminfter with frefh fifh, and to reduce the prefent exorbitant price there-"of, and to protect and encourage fifhermen, any perfon whatever may buy at any market, "fea-coaft, port, or river, all forts of fizeable fifh, and may fell the fame in thofe cities, "paying the cuftomary dues, except in Covent-garden market.—The fifh-carriages fhall be "numbered, and entered in the hackney-coach office; and may travel on Sundays and holi-"days, and to be ufed for fifh carriage folely.—No proprietor of fuch fifh fhall break bulk, nor "fell any fifh, till brought to the refpective markets, and there firft expofed publicly to fale, "falmon and lobfters excepted.—Mackrell may, as before the making of this act, be fold on "Sundays, either before or after divine fervice.—Fifh-mongers and others fhall not buy any "of the faid fifh, to be divided by lots or fhares, in order to be retailed again, but what fhall "be for his own fale or ufe only, on pain of twenty pounds.—For preventing of engroffing "of large quantities of fifh, the quantities of the lots are hereby limited; for inftance, frefh "falmon, fturgeon, large cod, &c. by the fingle fifh; large haddocks not to exceed four in "one lot,—and fo of other forts of fifh.—Out of this act are excepted falt or dried fifh, oyf-"ters, carp, and tench."

A. D.
1762 This ſtatute, and its diſintereſted and expenſive execution, though it afterwards failed of ſucceſs, from the powerful, wealthy, and intereſted combination of the fiſh-mongers to oppoſe it, redounded greatly to the honour of the moſt worthy and noble Society for arts, manufactures, and commerce.

For preventing the fraudulent exportation of the current coins of Denmark, his Daniſh Majeſty, in the month of October laſt, 1762, directed the loan-bank, for current caſh-notes, to exchange their hundred rix-dollar notes for notes of fifty, ten, or one rix-dollar: and not to pay to any one perſon above one crown in ſpecie. The ſaid loan-bank's capital ſtock conſiſts of five hundred thouſand rix-dollars, each being of the value of about four ſhillings and ſixpence ſterling. Their notes are received even in payment of the royal revenue.—They lend out money on pledges, not exceeding one hundred rix-dollars, at an intereſt of four per cent.

The exportations from South Carolina, from December 23, 1761, to September 1, 1762, viz.

Rice	62,288	Barrels.
Indigo	249,000	lb. weight.
Caſk-ſtaves	157,880.	
Shingles	674,750.	
Corn	23,194	Buſhels.
Peas	3,980	Buſhels.
Pork	2,275	Barrels.
Butter	80	Kegs.
Deer-ſkins	331	Hogſheads.
Ditto, ditto	12	Caſks.
Ditto, ditto	215	Bundles.
Ditto, ditto	1,043	looſe.
Pitch	3,110	Barrels.
Tar	1,119	Barrels.
Tobacco	14	Hogſheads.
Roſin	19	Barrels.
Tanned leather	2,693	Hides.
Tallow	32	Barrels.
Fiſh	41	Ditto.
Timber, &c.	103,293	Feet.
Oranges	4	Barrels.
Soap	100	Boxes.
Potatoes	20	Buſhels.
Laths	3,500	
Turpentine	751	Barrels.
Beef	21	Ditto.
Bacon	1,648	lb. weight.
Candles of myrtle-wax	14	Boxes.
Oats	388	Buſhels.
Hoops	14,500	
Reeds	400	
Handſpikes	360	
Furs	1	Hogſhead.

Furs

A. D. 1762

Furs — — —	1 Bundle.
Ditto — — —	2 Barrels.
Pink-root — — —	1 Cask.
Bees-wax — — —	6 Casks.
Hams — — —	5 Barrels.

Thus this fine province continued to increase its exportations.

Preliminary Articles of Peace, between his Britannic Majesty, on one Side, and the Most Christian and Catholic Kings, on the other Side; signed on the Third of November, 1762, and since ratified by the three high contracting Parties, viz.

Article I. A suspension of hostilities.

II. France renounces and guarantees to Great Britain all Nova Scotia or Acadia, and likewise Canada, and the Isle of Cape Breton, and all other islands in the gulph and river of St. Lawrence.

III. The French shall have the liberty of fishing and drying on a part of the coasts of the island of Newfoundland, as specified in the thirteenth article of the treaty of Utrecht; and the French may also fish in the gulph of St. Lawrence, so as they do not exercise the same but at the distance of three leagues from all the coasts belonging to Great Britain, as well those of the continent, as those of the islands in the said gulph.—And as to what relates to the fishery out of the said gulph, the French shall exercise the same, but at the distance of fifteen leagues from the coasts of the Isle of Cape Breton.

IV. Great Britain cedes to France, to serve as a shelter for the French fishermen, the islands of St. Peter and of Miquelon, and his Most Christian Majesty obliges himself, on his royal word, not to fortify the said islands, nor to erect any other buildings thereon, but merely for the conveniency of the fishery; and to keep only a guard of fifty men for the police.

V. Dunkirk shall be put into the state fixed by the last treaty of Aix la Chapelle, and by former treaties.

VI. The confines between the dominions of Great Britain and France on the continent of North America shall be irrevocably fixed, by a line drawn along the middle of the river Missisippi, from its source, as far as the river Ibberville, and from thence by a line drawn along the middle of this river, and of the lakes Maurepas and Pontchartrain, to the sea, and to this purpose, the Most Christian King cedes in full right, and guarantees to his Britannic Majesty, the river and port of Mobile, and every thing that he possesses on the left side of the river Missisippi, except the town of New Orleans, and the island on which it is situated, which shall remain to France; provided,—That the navigation of the river Missisippi shall be equally free to the subjects of Great Britain and France, in its whole breadth and length, from its source to the sea, and that part expresly which is between the said island of New Orleans and the right bank of that river, as well as the passage both in and out of its mouth.—And the vessels belonging to the subjects of either nation shall not be stopped, visited, or subjected to the payment of any duty whatsoever. The stipulations in favour of the inhabitants of Canada, inserted in the second article, shall also take place with regard to the inhabitants of the countries ceded by this article: *i. e.* that the French in Canada may freely profess the Roman Catholic religion, as far as the laws of Great Britain permit: that they may enjoy their civil rights, retire when they please, and may dispose of their estates to British subjects.

A. D. 1762. VII. Britain ſhall reſtore to France the iſlands of Guadaloupe, Mariegalante, Deſirade, and Martinico, in the Weſt Indies, and of Belleiſle, on the coaſt of France, with their fortreſſes. Provided, that the term of eighteen months be granted to his Britannic Majeſty's ſubjects ſettled there and in other places hereby reſtored to France, to ſell their eſtates, recover their debts, and to tranſport themſelves and effects, without being reſtrained on account of their religion, or any other pretence, except for debts, or criminal proſecutions.

VIII. France cedes and guarantees to Great Britain, the iſlands of Grenada and the Grenadines, with the ſame ſtipulations in favour of their inhabitants, as are inſerted in the ſecond article for thoſe of Canada. And the partition of the iſlands called neutral is agreed and fixed, ſo that thoſe of St. Vincent, Dominico, and Tobago ſhall remain in full right to England, and that of St. Lucia ſhall be delivered to France in full right, the two crowns reciprocally guaranteeing to each other the partition ſo ſtipulated.

IX. Great Britain ſhall reſtore to France the iſland of Goree: and France cedes and guarantees Senegal to Britain.

X. In the Eaſt Indies, Great Britain reſtores to France the ſeveral comptoirs which that crown had on the coaſt of Coromandel and of Malabar, and in Bengal, in the condition they now are, on condition, that the moſt Chriſtian King renounces the acquiſitions which he has made on the coaſt of Coromandel ſince the commencement of hoſtilities between the two companies in the year 1749. And his moſt Chriſtian Majeſty, on his ſide, ſhall reſtore all that he ſhall have conquered from Great Britain in the Eaſt Indies during the preſent war: and he alſo engages not to erect any fortifications, or to keep any troops, in Bengal.

XI. The iſland of Minorca and Fort St. Philip ſhall be reſtored to his Britannic Majeſty, in the ſame condition they were in when conquered by France.

XII. France ſhall reſtore all the countries belonging to the Electorate of Hanover, to the Landgravate of Heſſe, to the Duke of Brunſwic, and to the Count of La Lippe Buckebourg, and the fortreſſes ſhall be reſtored in the ſame condition as when conquered by France, and hoſtages ſhall be reſtored without any ranſom.

XIII. After the ratification of the preliminaries, France ſhall evacuate the fortreſſes of Cleves, Weſel, and Gueldres, and other countries belonging to the King of Pruſſia: and the Britiſh and French armies ſhall evacuate all the countries of Weſtphalia, Lower Saxony, Lower Rhine, Upper Rhine, &c. and in all Germany; and each ſhall retire into their own countries. And both crowns ſtipulate and promiſe, not to furniſh any ſuccour, of any kind, to their reſpective allies, who ſhall continue engaged in the preſent war in Germany.

XIV. The towns of Oſtend and Nieuport ſhall be evacuated by France, immediately after the ſignature of the preſent preliminaries.

XV. The deciſion of the prizes made on the Spaniards by Britiſh ſubjects in time of peace, ſhall be referred to the courts of juſtice of the Admiralty of Great Britain, conformably to the rules eſtabliſhed among all nations, ſo that the validity of the ſaid prizes between the Britiſh and Spaniſh nations, ſhall be decided and judged according to the law of nations, and according to treaties, in the courts of juſtice of the nation who ſhall have made the capture.

XVI. His Britannic Majeſty ſhall cauſe all the fortifications to be demoliſhed which his ſubjects ſhall have erected in the Bay of Honduras, and other places of the territory of Spain, in that part of the world, four months after the ratification of the definitive treaty. And his Catholic Majeſty ſhall not, for the future, ſuffer the ſubjects of his Britannic Majeſty, or their workmen, to be diſturbed or moleſted, under any pretence whatſoever, in their occupa-

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1762 tion of cutting, loading, and carrying away logwood: and, for this purpose, they may build, without hinderance, and occupy, without interruption, the houses and magazines necessary for them, for their families, and for their effects: and his said Catholic Majesty assures to them, by this article, the entire enjoyment of what is above stipulated.

XVII. His Catholic Majesty desists from all pretensions which he may have formed to the right of fishing about the island of Newfoundland.

XVIII. The King of Great Britain shall restore to Spain all that he has conquered in the island of Cuba, with the fortress of the Havannah: and that fortress, as well as all the other fortresses of the said island, shall be restored in the same condition they were in when they were conquered by his Britannic Majesty's arms.

XIX. In consequence of the restitution stipulated in the preceding article, his Catholic Majesty cedes and guarantees, in full right, to his Britannic Majesty, all that Spain possesses in the continent of North America, to the east or to the south-east of the river Missisippi. And his Britannic Majesty agrees to grant to the inhabitants of this country, above ceded, the liberty of the Catholic religion: he will, in consequence, give the most exact and most effectual orders, that his new Roman Catholic subjects may profess the worship of their religion, according to the rites of the Roman Church, as far as the laws of Great Britain permit. His Britannic Majesty further agrees, that the Spanish inhabitants, &c. may retire, in all safety and freedom, wherever they please; and may sell their estates, provided it be to his Britannic Majesty's subjects, and transport their effects as well as their persons, without being restrained in their emigration under any pretence whatsoever, except debts or criminal prosecutions. The term limited for this emigration being fixed to the space of eighteen months, to be computed from the day of the ratification of the definitive treaty. And his Catholic Majesty shall have power to cause all the effects that belong to him, either artillery or others, to be carried away.

XX. The King of Portugal, his Britannic Majesty's ally, is expressly included in the present preliminary articles. And their most Christian and Catholic Majesties engage to re-establish the ancient peace and friendship between them and his most Faithful Majesty: and they promise,

First, That there shall be a total cessation of hostilities between the crowns of Spain and Portugal, and between the Spanish and French troops, on the one side, and the Portuguese troops, and those of their allies, on the other, immediately after the ratification of these preliminaries: and that there shall be a like cessation of hostilities between the respective forces of the most Christian and Catholic Kings, on the one part, and those of the most Faithful King, on the other, in all other parts of the world, as well by sea as land: which cessation shall be fixed on the same epochs, and under the same conditions as that between Great Britain, France, and Spain; and shall continue till the conclusion of the definitive treaty between Great Britain, France, Spain, and Portugal.

Secondly, That all his most Faithful Majesty's fortresses and countries in Europe, which shall have been conquered by the Spanish and French armies, shall be restored, in the same condition they were in when they were conquered. And that, with regard to the Portuguese colonies in America, or elsewhere, if any change shall have happened in them, all things shall be put again on the same footing they were before the present war.

And the most Faithful King shall be invited to accede to the present preliminary articles as soon as shall be possible.

XXI. All

A. D. 1762 XXI. All the countries and territories which may have been conquered, in any part of the world whatsoever, by the arms of their Britannic and most Faithful Majesties, as well as by those of their most Christian and Catholic Majesties, which are not included in the present articles, either under the titles of cession, or under the title of restitutions, shall be restored without difficulty, and without requiring compensations.

XXII. It is agreed, That the British and French troops shall proceed, immediately after the ratification of the preliminaries, to the evacuation of the countries which they occupy in the empire, or elsewhere, conformably to the twelfth and thirteenth articles.

The island of Belleisle shall be evacuated six weeks after the ratification of the definitive treaty, or sooner, if it can be done.

Guadaloupe, Desirade, Mariegalante, Martinico, and St. Lucia, three months after the ratification of the definitive treaty, or sooner, if it can be done.

Great Britain shall likewise, at the end of three months after the ratification of the definitive treaty, or sooner, if it can be done, enter into possession of the river and of the port of Mobile, and of all that is to form the limits of the territory of Great Britain, on the side of the river Missisippi, as they are specified in the sixth article.

The island of Goree shall be evacuated by Great Britain three months after the ratification of the definitive treaty; and the island of Minorca by France at the same epochs, or sooner, if it can be done. And, according to the conditions of the fourth article, France shall enter into possession of the islands of St. Peter and of Miquelon at the end of three months.

The comptoirs in the East Indies shall be restored six months after the ratification of the definitive treaty, or sooner, if it can be done.

The island of Cuba, with the fortress of the Havanna, shall be restored three months after the ratification of the definitive treaty, or sooner, if it can be done: and at the same time Great Britain shall enter into possession of the country ceded by Spain, according to the nineteenth article.

All the fortresses and countries of his most Faithful Majesty in Europe shall be restored immediately after the ratification of the definitive treaty: and the Portuguese colonies which may have been conquered, shall be restored, in the space of three months in the West Indies, and of six months in the East Indies, after the ratification of the definitive treaty, or sooner, if it can be done. In consequence whereof the necessary orders shall be sent by each of the high contracting parties, with reciprocal passports for the ships which shall carry them, immediately after the ratification of the definitive treaty.

XXIII. All the treaties, of what nature soever, which existed before the present war, as well between their Britannic and most Christian Majesties, as between their Britannic and Catholic Majesties, as also between any of the above-named powers and his most Faithful Majesty, shall be, as they are in effect, renewed and confirmed, in all their points, which are not derogated from by the present preliminary articles, notwithstanding whatever may have been stipulated to the contrary by any of the high contracting powers. And all the said parties declare, that they will not suffer any privilege, favour, or indulgence, to subsist, contrary to the treaties above-confirmed.

XXIV. The prisoners made respectively by the arms of their Britannic, most Christian, Catholic, and most Faithful Majesties, by land and by sea, shall be restored reciprocally, and *bona fide*, after the ratification of the definitive treaty, without ransom, paying the debts

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1762 debts they have contracted, during their captivity. And each crown ſhall reſpectively pay the advances which ſhall have been made for the ſubſiſtance and maintenance of their priſoners, by the ſovereign of the country where they ſhall have been detained, according to the receipts and atteſted accounts, and other authentic titles which ſhall be furniſhed on each ſide.

XXV. In order to prevent all cauſes of complaints and diſputes which may ariſe, on account of ſhips, merchandizes, and other effects, which may be taken at ſea, it is reciprocally agreed, that the ſhips, merchandizes, and effects, which may be taken in the Channel, and in the North Seas after the ſpace of twelve days, to be computed from the ratification of the preſent preliminary articles, ſhall be reciprocally reſtored on each ſide.

That the term ſhall be ſix weeks for the prizes taken, from the Channel, the Britiſh Seas, and the North Seas, as far as the Canary Iſlands incluſively, either in the Ocean, or in the Mediterranean.

Three months from the ſaid Canary Iſlands as far as the Equinoctial Line, or Equator.

Laſtly, Six months beyond the ſaid Equinoctial Line, or Equator, and in all other parts of the world, without any exception, or other more particular deſcription of time and place.

XXVI. The ratifications of the preſent preliminary articles ſhall be expedited in good and due form, and exchanged in the ſpace of one month, or ſooner, if it can be done, to be computed from the day of the ſignature of the preſent articles.

In witneſs whereof, we, the under-written Miniſters Plenipotentiaries of his Britannic Majeſty, of his moſt Chriſtian Majeſty, and of his Catholic Majeſty, in virtue of our reſpective full powers, have ſigned the preſent preliminary articles; and have cauſed the ſeal of our arms to be put thereto.

Done at Fontainbleau, the third day of November, 1762.

BEDFORD, C. P. S. (L. S.)
CHOISEUL, DUC DE PRASLIN. (L. S.)
EL MARQ. DE GRIMALDI. (L. S.)

Declaration, ſigned at Fontainbleau, the third of November, 1762, by the French plenipotentiary, relating to the thirteenth article of the preliminaries. His moſt Chriſtian Majeſty declares, that, in agreeing to the thirteenth article of the preliminary, ſigned this day, he does not mean to renounce the right of acquitting his debts to his allies; and that the remittances, which may be made on his part, in order to acquit the arrears that may be due on the ſubſidies of preceding years, are not to be conſidered as an infraction of the ſaid article.

In witneſs whereof, I, the under-written Miniſter Plenipotentiary of his moſt Chriſtian Majeſty, have ſigned the preſent declaration; and have cauſed the ſeal of my arms to be put thereto.

Done at Fontainbleau, the eighth day of November, 1762.

CHOISEUL, DUC DE PRASLIN. (L. S.)

Theſe articles were ratified the twenty-ſecond day of November, 1762.

Extract from the reſpective humble addreſſes of thanks of both Houſes of Parliament to his Britannic Majeſty, for his graciouſly communicating to them the ſaid preliminary articles, viz.

I. The Houſe of Lords, in returning his Majeſty their thanks for the important communication graciouſly made to them of the ſaid preliminary articles, thus expreſs themſelves, on the

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1762 the tenth of December. "The great object of the war so fully answered—a vast extent of "empire added to the British crown—new sources opened for the trade and manufactures of "this nation—and stability and duration insured, under the blessing of Providence, to these "great and national advantages," &c.

II. The House of Commons, on the thirteenth of that month, return his Majesty their most humble and hearty thanks, for his most gracious condescension, in ordering the said preliminary articles of peace to be laid before them. They thus express themselves, viz. "We assure your Majesty, that we have considered them with our best attention: and, "although to make peace and war be your Majesty's just and undoubted prerogative; yet, "knowing how agreeable it must be to your royal mind, to be informed of the grateful sense "your people entertain of the justice and wisdom of your measures, and of your unwearied "attention to their welfare; your faithful Commons are impatient to express their appro- "bation of the advantageous terms upon which your Majesty hath concluded preliminary "articles of peace; and to lay before your Majesty the hearty applause of a faithful, affec- "tionate, and thankful people. The successes with which Divine Providence hath blessed "your arms,—hath procured such solid, and, in all human probability, such permanent "advantages for this nation, that we are no less sensibly affected with that humane disposition "which induced your Majesty to put an end to a long, bloody, and expensive, though glori- "ous and successful war. We are convinced, that posterity, from their own experience, will "hereafter agree with us in esteeming that peace to be no less honourable than profitable, by "which there will be ceded to Great Britain such an addition of territory, attended with so "great an extension of our commerce."

THE END OF THE ORIGINAL PART OF THE HISTORICAL AND CHRONOLOGICAL WORK BY MR. ANDERSON.

☞ *The Reader is referred for the* CONTINUATION, *from this period, to the fourth volume.*

APPENDIX:

Comprehending certain Matters relative to the foregoing Work, which, for the most Part, could not properly be brought into a Chronological Method or Order: as,

I. That excellent small Treatise which, in our PREFACE, we promised to exhibit in this APPENDIX, as being long since out of Print, and become somewhat scarce; entitled, "OBSERVATIONS concerning the DOMINION and SOVEREIGNTY of the SEAS; being an "Abstract of the Marine Affairs of ENGLAND."—*By Sir* PHILIP MEDOWS, *Knight.*

THE AUTHOR's ADDRESS.

THE dominion of the sea, as it is most apt to be made the fair colour, and specious pretence to a war betwixt England and Holland, when the real causes of such war are hidden and remote; so nothing will so effectually preserve a lasting union between them, by hindering the root of discord from growing again, as a true knowledge and right understanding of that matter. About which there are many traditional mistakes and popular errors, too current among us, and such as are not of a simple and innocent nature, but very dangerous, and of evil consequence. The consideration whereof gave the first occasion to the following Discourse, which was composed several years since, was read and presented to his late Majesty King Charles the Second, and well accepted by him; and has since remained a manuscript in the hands of several persons of quality. And though it might receive a new turn and air more accommodate to the present state of things; and though the time when it was written, the person for whom, and the niceness of the subject itself, obliged the author, to more of caution and reserve than perhaps would now be needful, yet he was not willing to make any alterations in it, chusing rather to speak the language of truth than of times; for what was once true is always so, though not always equally fit to be made public. But surely now, if ever, it is seasonable to remove all obstacles and impediments out of the way of a good understanding between the two nations, when their most intimate union and conjunction is not only, as at other times, highly expedient, but absolutely necessary.

PREFACE;

SHEWING THE AUTHOR's DESIGN.

THE following Diſcourſe may poſſibly, upon a ſlight and ſuperficial view, ſeem to have ſome tendency towards the diminution of the rights of England, and conſequently the enlargement of thoſe of other governments; but upon a ſerious and deliberate peruſal, there will not appear any juſt ground for ſuch imputation. It is, doubtleſs, very commendable in a ſubject, if he can, with ſound judgment and convincing reaſon, to advance the pretenſions of his Sovereign amongſt foreign nations. If it be the part of a good judge, *ampliare curiam*, it is much more of a good ſubject, *ampliare coronam*: for we all ſhine in the glory of the crown that is over us, and even private perſons have ſomething of luſtre reflected on them, from the honour and grandeur of the monarchy under which they live. Upon which account, Mr. Selden has excellently well deſerved of the public, by heightening the ſea-ſovereignty of the crown of England, in his learned book entitled, *Mare Clauſum*; a treatiſe ſo comprehenſive of what can be ſaid on that argument, that he who ſhould now write of the ſame, would certainly incur the old cenſure of writing an Iliad after Homer.

But if all the claims and pretenſions of the crown of England, ſupported by the authorities and allegations produced in that book, ſhall be vouched as the proper meaſure and ſtandard of right and wrong betwixt us and other nations; if the controverting thereof by them, ſhall be eſteemed by us as an invaſion and uſurpation, and conſequently the juſt cauſe and foundation of a war; if what is well written muſt be fought for too, not being to be gained but by a longer tool than a pen, the King of England will unavoidably be caſt upon this hard dilemma, either of being involved in endleſs and dangerous quarrels with all his neighbours abroad, or of having his honour and reputation proſtituted at home, as tamely ſuffering the beſt jewels of his crown to be raviſhed from it, and the regalities thereof, tranſmitted to him from his moſt noble progenitors, to be uſurped by foreigners. Nor does the miſchief ceaſe here; for, in caſe he ſhould at any time enter into a war, for the more vigorous aſſerting and maintaining thoſe pretenſions, and they not be included in the terms and conditions of the following peace, the inference will be this—That he was ſo far worſted in the war, as to be conſtrained to buy a peace, if not by a total abandoning of them, yet at leaſt by a temporary receſſion from thoſe pretenſions.

Let me add one conſideration more; if a war betwixt England and any other kingdom or ſtate, be grounded and ſtated upon a ſea-dominion, by help of this advantage, an enemy will gain the weather-gage of us, and derive from it a conſiderable benefit to himſelf; *hoc Ithacus velit.*—A Dutchman will deſire no better: for, by this means, we ſhall diſoblige and diſaffect all our neighbours to our cauſe and quarrel, at ſuch a time when we moſt need their friendſhip and aſſiſtance. This will awaken fears and jealouſies, and ſtrongly alarm them to an early ſecuring of their own navigation and commerce, againſt thoſe who would impropriate the ſeas. They will not ſo much regard the juſtice of our cauſe, as the conſequences of our ſucceſs, and will be ſure to range themſelves with heart or hand, or both, as occaſion ſhall require, on that ſide to which they ſhall be invited by a common and complicate intereſt: it will not be a war betwixt this Prince and that, betwixt Holland and England,

England, but betwixt the continent and an iſland, and the queſtion will be briefly this—Whether the iſland ſhall have the ſea to herſelf, or whether the continent ſhall have ſhare with her?—As this is conſonant and agreeable to reaſon, to ſuppoſe that it will be ſo, ſo it is verified by experience, that in fact it has been ſo. We need look back no further than the year 1665: England was then in open war with Holland, and, as previous thereto, the Parliament granted a royal aid, the end whereof is publicly declared in the preamble of the act, viz. "To equip, and ſet out to ſea, a royal "navy, for the preſervation of his Majeſty's ancient and undoubted ſovereignty and dominion in "the ſeas." This was exactly calculated for the meridian of England; it ſerved to inſpire our captains and officers with honour, to animate our ſeamen with courage, to diſpoſe the whole body of the people, with chearfulneſs and unanimity, to undergo ſo mighty a ſupply, anſwerable to the greatneſs of the undertaking. But it ſerved not ſo good effects beyond-ſea, as ſoon appeared; for the balance of ſucceſs had no ſooner inclined to England, by that ſignal victory obtained under the happy conduct of his then Royal Highneſs, over the Dutch fleet, commanded by Lieutenant Admiral Opdam, but France ſtood over to Holland, Denmark was following, and had the war continued, and the ſeries of ſucceſs not been interrupted by the fatalities of the plague, fire, and other accidents, by occaſion whereof a peace intervened, there had at that time been as formidable a confederacy and conjunction formed againſt England, as that at Cambray againſt Venice.

To remedy theſe inconveniencies, and obviate thoſe of a ſimilar nature, I thought it uſeful in the following Diſcourſe, carefully to diſtinguiſh betwixt the queſtion of *right*, and the queſtion of *fact*; betwixt the pretenſions of the crown of England, and the poſſeſſions of it; betwixt what it has continually claimed and demanded as an ancient right, and what it has been actually ſeized of, by a long, peaceable, and uninterrupted enjoyment, which implies a conſent and acknowledgement on the part of other nations. The latter of theſe is the true touchſtone of wrong and injury; for what has been anciently claimed, may have been as anciently denied, and ſo remain *lis pendens*, a queſtion undecided: but what has been peaceably enjoyed, and thereby paſſed into an acknowledged right, afterwards to detain or controvert, is a manifeſt injury and uſurpation. And by this we ſhall eaſily diſcern, whether the crown of England maintains its ground, or whether it has loſt any thing of what it formerly had, by new encroachments and diſſeiſins, ſuch as may furniſh matter for a juſt reſentment and vindication. In the mean time, the pretenſions of the crown ſtand as they did; what they were, that they now are, no diminution of them, no derogation from them. It is courage in a nation ſtrenuouſly to maintain their own, and it is juſtice rightly to diſtinguiſh their own; and the beſt temper of government is, neither to do a wrong, nor take it.

I thought it needful alſo to examine the accuſtomed ſalutation at ſea, by the flag and topſail, and to endeavour to clear the true ſignificancy and import of it, and the rather, becauſe it has been the occaſion of ſpilling much blood in Europe within theſe forty years laſt paſt, and may be the effuſion of more, if a timely remedy be not applied to ſo growing an evil, which is almoſt become a common make-bate betwixt the European nations. And all this partly by overſtraining a fine thread, and laying greater weight upon it than it will bear, but chiefly for want of a certain and determinate regulation; for whilſt ſea-captains are, by the generality of their inſtructions, referred only to former uſe and cuſtom, and what that is, not diſtinctly known, many irregularities and indiſcretions enſue, not unlike to thoſe of ſome gallants at land, who think it a point of honour to quarrel for the way, or juſtle for the wall, with all they meet, but with this difference, theſe do it only to the endangering their own perſons, but the others to the engaging their maſters many times in unneceſſary feuds and diſputes.

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This is the mark at which the following discourse is levelled, and by these measures it has been guided. And the whole design of it tends to this, to prevent needless quarrels, and such as are stated to disadvantage abroad, and to justify our King's reputation against censure and reflection at home. That whilst he preserves the public peace, his honour may not be impeached, nor yet his honour, (of which he has so quick a sense) be made use of through mistaken appearances to imbroil his peace; but be left free to steer an even course betwixt the tender regards of the one, and the prudential considerations of the other. In order to which design, it was necessary for me to remove some obstacles and impediments, as I found them in my way. To clear the true notion of dominion and sovereignty in all the chief branches and dependencies of it. To trace matters of fact through the national treaties made betwixt our Kings and other Princes. To vindicate some passages in our books and rolls from mistakes and misapplications. And all this without any vanity of refuting Mr. Selden, who, if he has extended the rights of the crown of England to the wrong of other Princes, *viderint ipsi*, let them look to it, whose concern it is; but merely in prosecution of the design of a Discourse, which, besides that it asserts the honour of our King, by shewing in fact, as to sea-matters, how he maintains whatever his ancestors enjoyed, may, as is humbly conceived, be further serviceable for these two ends.

First, To put a stop to some popular errors, which prevail to the great inconvenience of the King, by continually prompting and exposing him, upon pretended points of honour, to a perpetual strife with all his neighbours, for things not safe to be insisted on, never enjoyed, nor ever likely to be obtained.

Secondly, To pacify and allay those jealousies, which dispose foreign princes upon all occasions to enter into confederacies prejudicial to the interests of England: for, as it has been the policy of France, in this last age, to load Spain with an imputation of affecting an universal monarchy, so it is the practice of Holland, to charge England with an affectation of a sea monarchy, to the belief of which we too unwarily contribute; and under this covert the Dutch advance their own designs, as the French have done theirs under the former.

As to the Method of this Treatise, it is divided into these four general heads:

I. What is meant by the dominion and sovereignty of the seas, and what the true notion or idea of it is.

II. What things are incident to this dominion, and inseparably follow it.

III. What the salutation at sea by the flag and topsail signifies, and whether it has any relation to the dominion of it.

IV. The whole matter of fact betwixt the crown of England, and foreign princes and states, in the several incidents of sea dominion, is distinctly examined, and impartially reported.

These general heads contain several subdivisions, concerning the *Quatuor Maria*.—The Laws of Oleron.—The Roll in the Tower *De Superioritate Maris*.—The Fishery licensed and limited, &c.

Observations

Observations concerning the Dominion and Sovereignty of the Seas, &c.

IT has been learnedly argued on both sides, whether there be any just dominion or property in any sea: for, in the primitive and natural state of things, antecedent to human fact and consent, the whole earth was common and undivided to all mankind: but then, as it was common, so it was without culture, men living upon the spontaneous productions of it, in an easy, and innocent; but rude and simple manner. Their dwellings were tents; their drink, water; their bread, roots and nuts; their clothing, the bark of trees, or skins of beasts. Wherefore, to better the condition of human life, by the encouragement of ingenious arts and industry, consent, either express or tacit, introduced occupancy and property, that every man might enjoy to himself as a reward, the benefit of his own skill and labour. Then houses were built, fields sown with corn, vineyards planted, and the manner of living heightened by progressive steps and gradations, from the plain state of simple necessity, to a degree of convenience; from convenience to delight, from delight to luxury. But forasmuch, as the wide sea is not capable of cultivation or improvement, by art or industry, it may therefore be reasonably supposed, never to have been impropriated by consent, but left to its primitive and natural communion.

If it be objected, that various people and nations have been lords of several seas; as the Athenians, Carthaginians, Rhodians, and Romans: to that will be replied, that this was force and empire, without property, an usurpation, not a right; and that an armed conqueror, by the same rule, that he dispossesses what is proper, may impropriate what is common, only with this difference, that it it is extensively more unjust to debar many from their common right, than to disseize a single person of his private inheritance.

I shall not enter upon the merits of the cause, as not being to my purpose, but as to the fore-mentioned argument, how plausible soever, it concludes fallaciously, as if that, which is but *causa una*, one cause, were *causa unica*, the only cause, whereas there may be other reasons and considerations, besides that of encouraging industry, why communion was changed into property, and those equally extendible to sea as well as land. Possibly the consent of some nations may divest themselves of a joint right, and invest it in one, in order to a public benefit. And this is the best part of that title, which the Venetian has to the Gulph, which being a particular and remarkable case, it will not be amiss briefly to touch upon it, in the following paragraph.

The Ottoman power extending itself into Europe, to the subversion of the eastern empire, conquering all Greece, with Macedon and Epirus, and penetrating to the very banks of the Gulph, almost within sight of Italy; the Italian, and other neighbouring Princes, to interpose the best skreen they could, betwixt themselves and the near approaching danger, did, by a concurring interest, impatronize the Venetian in the Gulph, who, by reason of their potency in shipping, and the immediate concern of their own imminent peril, were the most proper state to be made the bulwark of Christendom at sea. Thus the Pope, by the ceremony of a ring, wedded their Duke every year to the Adriatic. And in the General Council of Lyons, in the presence of the Ambassadors of several Princes, upon complaint made against the Venetians, for laying impositions upon all ships sailing within the Gulph, judgment was given in favour of the republic, upon consideration of their guarding that sea against the courses of the pirates and Saracens. And the neighbouring Princes would not so much as send a galley without asking leave of the Senate; which respect was so providently

 managed,

managed by that wise council, the better to assert their sovereignty, that sometimes they would give leave, under some restrictions and conditions, as in the case of the sister of Uladislaus King of Naples; sometimes they denied leave, as in the case of Mary, sister of Philip King of Spain, in the year 1630, whom the Senate would not permit to be transported from Naples to Trieste, in the galleys of Spain, but in those only of the republic. But it is to be considered also, that the Gulph of Venice is not a wide sea or ocean, nor a streight or narrow sea, called in Latin *Fretum*, but a *Sinus*, a bay or gulph closed at one end; in the bottom whereof the city of Venice is situate, upon several isles or insulets. The seas of England are of a different nature and condition, they are open both above and below, and they are the mid-way passage betwixt all the northern and southern nations. The wares and merchandises of Muscovy, Poland, Sweden, Denmark, Norway, Germany, and the Netherlands, are conveyed by shipping to France, Spain, Italy, the Levant, &c. and so back again from the south to the north, through the north-east sea betwixt England and Germany, and the western channel betwixt England and France, which shews, of what influence and import this dominion, on the part of England, is to the rest of the world.

CHAP. I.

Wha tis meant by the Dominion and Sovereignty of the Seas, and what the true Notion or Idea of it is.

BEFORE I proceed, it will be necessary, first, to explain the terms, what is meant by *Dominion*, what by *Sovereignty*, and what by the *Seas*; lest we lose things in words, and take up with names, instead of realities. By dominion is to be understood property, (for so is that word dominion always taken in a legal sense) or a right of possessing and using any thing as one's own, and of excluding all others from a promiscuous and equal use thereof. That is mine, which is so mine, as it is not another's, *eodem modo*, in the same manner as it is mine: and this property is twofold, either public or private, for property is not opposed to public but to common. Public property excludes communion amongst nations; private property, communion amongst persons. For, as particular manors and tenements, divided by their respective boundaries, are the private property of particular persons, which they possess privatively of other persons: so countries and territories, like greater manors, divided each from the other by limits and borders, are the public properties of nations, which they possess exclusively one of another. The whole territory of England is the public property of the English nation, and this property excludes aliens, or all born out of the King of England's liegance, from taking real inheritances, or holding lands and tenements any where in England. The supreme rule and jurisdiction in and over this territory, is that which we call sovereignty, and is the public property of the King, in right of his crown of England. He is sole lord of this great manor, and all the lands in England are holden, either mediately or immediately, of him. And he is the head and chief ruler, he bears within him the person of the whole nation, and thus all England is his territorial property. And the royal domains and possessions, annexed to the crown, as the public revenue thereof, and as distinct from the private possessions of particular persons, are his patrimonial property. He has them in his public and politic capacity, as King, not in his private and natural, as an individual person: for Kings, as well as subjects, may have possessions

possessions in a private right, as the King of Egypt, who bought the lands of his subjects for corn, he had not those lands in right of his crown, as King, for he was King before he had them.

I have done with those two terms, Dominion, and Sovereignty; I pass to the third, and that is, the Sea or Seas. Whereby sea is not to be understood, such as a collective body of waters, singly and solely as waters; for the moveable inconstant waters, whether of sea or river, barely as such, are not a capable subject of property; but as waters contained within a fixed and certain boundary, and supported by a standing bottom. In the first sense, no man goes twice into the same river; in the second, a river is the same in a succession of ages. And in this latter sense, the sea, as it is a solid *alveus*, or receptacle of waters, contained within a certain boundary, is as truly and as properly territory as the land, It is *territorium à terra*, from the standing bottom of earth, by which the waters of it are supported, and from the unmoveable shores of earth, within which those waters are contained.

Having sufficiently explained the terms, if one should ask me, what is meant by the dominion and sovereignty of the British seas, which the Kings of England are said to have continually claimed, in right of their crown of England? I would answer, by dominion is meant the public property of those seas, as part of the territory of their realm of England, and consequently all other princes and people excluded, not from all, but from an equal use of them. By sovereignty is meant, that sole supreme rule and jurisdiction, which the Kings of England, successively, have over the whole realm of England, of which those seas are a part. If he should futher ask me, how does this right in the crown of England appear, and by what proofs is it evidenced? I would refer him to Mr. Selden, whose proofs and arguments, whether they come up to the height of such a dominion as I have here described, which they ought to do, or else will fall short of the mark, is not for me to say; I leave that to the judgment of his reader, wishing they were so convincing and demonstrative, that all other nations, as well as our own, would rest satisfied therewith. But if he asks me of matter of fact, whether the Kings of England have, for any long time, been in the actual and peaceable possession of such dominion, as a right acknowledged by the express or implied consent of other nations? This I shall examine by and by.

But whereas I hinted before, that the dominion of the crown of England in the British seas, did not exclude other princes and states from all use, but from an equal use of those seas, this needs a little explication. In order to which it is to be considered, that as all property first began by human fact and consent, antecedent to which was communion; so in this consent was implied a reservation and benign exception of such use, as might be of great benefit to others, without any considerable damage to the proprietor: a river, as a fishery, is a private dominion, no man may fish there, without the owner's leave, because it would be a diminution of his profit; if navigable, as a way; it is public to all the subjects of that Prince who is lord of the territory; as it is a running water, it is common to man and beast to drink of it, and wash with it. A field is a private property, but the market-path over it is public, and when it was first made a property, it was with reservation of a path. For fields were not distinguished by metes and bounds to their respective owners, with design to confine every man to his own home, but with exception of liberty to pass and re-pass in a harmless manner, over each others properties in pursuance of their lawful occasions. The sea, say we, is the public property of the crown of England, but yet, as it is a way, it is common to the peaceable traders of all nations. A path over a field is of some damage to the soil; though compensated with a greater utility; but a way over the sea is of no damage to the water; and the sea, being a fluid body, is all path where a ship can sail, and a common highway from one nation to another. And this is so far from being a damage to any, that it is highly beneficial to all: for as there is no man so self-

 sufficient

sufficient, as not to need the continual help of another, so neither is there any country which does not, at some time or other, need the growth and productions of another.

Well then, since it is the nature of property in general, so to make a thing mine, as it is not another's, *eodem modo*, in the same manner as it is mine; and the dominion of the sea in one prince does not exclude another from all use of it; it may not be unfitly demanded, what are those proper uses which are so peculiarly reserved to the crown of England, in right of such supposed dominion, as that all other nations are excluded from them? And this will lead me to the second general head which I proposed, viz.

CHAP. II.

What Things are incident to the Dominion of the Sea, and inseparably follow it.

I ANSWER, these three things:

I. A right of excluding all foreign ships of war from passing upon any of the seas of England, without special licence for that purpose first obtained.

II. The sole marine jurisdiction within those seas.

III. An appropriate fishery.

First, All foreigners are excluded by virtue of such dominion from a general liberty, without first asking and obtaining special licence, of putting out upon the British seas, ships fitted and equipped for war, when and in what number they please. The reason is plain, because it is the territory of another Prince; and to enter it, without leave, with an armed force, and in such numbers, as may justly occasion fear and suspicion of danger, is a public hostility. The Persians were restrained by pact and league made with the Athenians, from entering with armed vessels within the Cyanean and Chelidonian islands; but had the Persians acknowledged the territorial property of those seas to have been in the people of Athens, there had been no need of such pact, for in the reason of the thing itself, abstracted from covenant, it had been as much as hostility to have entered those seas with a fleet of war, as to have landed an army upon Attica; for both were equally the Athenian territory.

Secondly, From the juridical cognisance of all causes, civil and criminal, for and concerning all matters and things done and committed in and upon those seas, the persons, whom those causes concern, there abiding. The reason is, because jurisdiction is an essential and inseparable part of the sovereignty, which a prince has within his own territory. All foreigners, whilst in it, owe him a local obedience, and are triable by his laws, and before his judicatories only as the sole supreme judge of the place. And for any to appeal from him, is to set a superior over him, and to exercise jurisdiction within his territory, without an authority derived from him, is to king it in another's kingdom, to set up co-ordinate supremes within one realm in matters of the same civil cognisance. Which is as much a contradiction, as to affirm many infinites, for as the infinity of one makes all others finite, so the supremacy of one makes all others subordinate.

Thirdly, From a right of fishing within those seas, without special licence first obtained from the lord of the seignory, and under such conditions and considerations as he shall think fit. The reason is,

is, becaufe this is the patrimonial property of his crown, and the fifhery is in a manner all the profit that his great fea-territory yields him. The dominion of the fea, without an appropriate fifhing, is as if a vineyard fhould be a property, but the grapes common. Or like an eftate or poffeffion of land, vefted in one, to the ufe of another; and fuch we had many here in England, till a good ftatute (twenty-feventh Henry VIII. cap. x.) executed the poffeffion to the ufe, and fo conjoined what ought not to have been divided. Nor can it be alleged, that a promifcuous fifhing in the fea is of no damage to the proprietor, for admitting the multitude of fifh to be fo great as to fuffice all mens ufe, which is not always true, yet this will abate the price of the market for fale, nor can the fifhery be farmed out, if occafion be, at fo good advantage. For fo we read, that the Eaftern Emperor let out to farm the fifhing in the Ægean Sea, near Byzantium, at the yearly rent of ten thoufand crowns, and fometimes more.

I am fenfible, that what I have already faid, and part of what follows, will be thought by fome to run too much into the niceties of law and fchool, and that it is a thread fpun too fine. But without the help of fuch a thread, how fine foever it may feem, we fhall wander without end in a labyrinth of phrafes and forms of fpeech, we fhall lofe things in the ambiguity of words, and miftake fhadows for fubftance. He who affirms a fea-dominion, and by it underftands any thing lefs than property, embraces a cloud for Juno. To ride actual mafter at fea, with a well equipped fleet, or to have fuch a plenty of naval ftores in conftant readinefs, as fhall be fufficient to anfwer all occafions, is not the dominion of the fea: this is power, not property, though the property and honour too, efpecially of an ifland Prince, are beft fecured and fupported by fuch power. Neither is the honour of the flag, and of requiring foreign fhips to lower their fails and do a reverence, any part of the dominion of the feas, nor has any relation to it, as I fhall fhew prefently. Much lefs do fuch ufual expreffions and words as thefe, the Britifh feas, the fea of England, our feas, import any legal dominion, but only denote a geographical defcription, *mare Flandricum*, *mare Normannicum*, *mare Armoricum*, *mare Aquitanicum*, and a hundred others do. And nothing more ufual, than for feas to receive their denominations from the fhores they roll upon; and our feas are the feas which roll upon our fhores. But that which occafions the ordinary and moft frequent miftake, is, the word dominion, it being equivocal and of a doubtful fenfe, as the Latin words *imperium* and *dominium* likewife are. For fometimes they are taken ftrictly and legally, denoting property, and thus *imperium* and *dominium* are the fame with public and private property, according to that of Seneca, *Rex omnia poffidet imperio, finguli dominio*,—the King poffeffes all by his fovereignty, and yet particular perfons have their private poffeffions too. But then again, fometimes they are taken loofely and hiftorically, denoting power only and command, as, *Pompeio datum eft Imperium Maris intra Herculis columnas*,—the Roman people gave *Imperium Maris* to Pompey, the command of the fea, not the property of it; they commiffioned him their Admiral or General at fea, as far as the Streights Mouth. Thus fome of the Roman Emperors were entitled *Terræ Marifq. Domini*, Lords or Defpots of Sea as well as Land; fo is Vefpafian called by Jofephus: and yet they were but lords in power, not in property; for by the very text of the Roman law, as it was afterwards compiled by Juftinian, the fea is accounted as common as the air, and that by natural right. And thus fome men underftand no more by dominion of the fea, than what our ufual fea phrafe imports, to ride mafter at fea, or of the fea. But it is one thing to be mafter of it in an hiftorical and military fenfe, by a fuperiority of power and command, as the General of a victorious fleet is, another thing to be mafter of it in a legal fenfe, by a poffeffory right, as the true owner and proprietor of it is. In like manner we fay of a General at land, that he is mafter of the field; mafter of it in power, not owner of it in title. Property is a fixed and permanent right, a man may lofe his feifin, and yet retain his

 title,

title, an ufurper is no owner, but power is flitting and tranfitory, and fo foon as the poffeffion is loft, the power is gone. If we confound power and property, *poteftas & proprietas*, by a promifcuous ufe of the one for the other, the dominion of the fea will be like that of our Cornifhmens ball, at one of their hurlings; it is his, who can catch it, fo long as he can keep it, till another gets it from him.

I fhall add one queftion more, out of the Roman ftory, not wholly unworthy obfervation: Tacitus fays, *Italiam utroque mari duæ claffes Mifenum apud & Ravennam præfidebant*:—two fleets guarded Italy on both feas, one at Mifenum, the other at Ravenna. And Suetonius afcribes the firft inftitution thereof to Auguftus; *Claffem Mifeni & alteram Ravennæ ad Tutelam fuperi & inferi Maris collocavit*:—the fleet at Mifenum was for the fafety of the upper fea towards Gaul and Spain weftwards, the other at Ravenna was for the fafety of the lower fea, towards Epirus and Greece eaftwards. Our Kings in England have fo exactly followed this model of Auguftus, that one would think, they had copied from his original. Has Italy an upper and lower fea? So has England: our upper fea is that northwards betwixt England and Germany; our lower fea that fouth-weftward betwixt England and France. Had the Roman Emperors their diftinct fleets, one for each fea? Our Kings had their diftinct admiralties, one for the north, and another for the fouth, reckoning north and fouth from the mouth of the river Thames. Their fleets were *ad tutelam maris*, fays Suetonius, for the fafety of the fea. Ours *ad cuftodiam*, fay our records, for the cuftody or fafe keeping it, from being infefted by pirates, (a trade frequent in former ages amongft the northern people) and confequently for fecuring the navigation and commerce of their fubjects and allies. The two fleets did *præfidere Italiam*, fays Tacitus, guard Italy as a garrifon town does a frontier. Ours were alfo called *Naves Præfidiariæ*,—garrifon fhips, to guard the open fhores and landing places of a large ifland, againft the hoftile infults and defcent of foreigners. They are our moveable garrifons, our floating caftles, fifty of which will defend an ifland better than five thoufand ftanding ones built round the fhores.

Befide the two admiralties of the north and fouth, the books of our municipal laws make frequent mention of the *quatuor maria*, the four feas, environing England to the eaft, weft, north, and fouth. For England, as diftinct from Scotland, is a peninfula, bounded on the north by an ifthmus of land and the northern fea. And it is obfervable, that to be *infra* or *intra quatuor maria*, within the four feas, is, in conftruction of our law, to be within the kingdom of England; and to be *extra quatuor maria*, out of the four feas, is equipollent to being out of the kingdom of England. And it is to be further obferved, that not only he who is upon the land, but he alfo who is upon the fea, is in our law faid to be *intra mare*, within the fea, becaufe he has fea ftill before him, till he be arrived on the oppofite fhore, and then, and not till then, he is *extra mare*, out of the fea, or beyond it. And when an Englifhman is upon the other fhore, he is then within the liegeance of another Prince, and therefore out of the kingdom of England; but whilft upon the fea, he is within the liegeance of his own Prince, and therefore within the kingdom of England. For England is not always taken ftrictly for the land of it, in which fenfe the ifles of Jerfey, Guernfey, and Mann, are no part of England, but fometimes comprehenfively for all the dominions of it, and in legal underftanding, he is within the kingdom of England, who is within the local liegeance of the crown of England.

The ufe our law makes of this technical phrafe, or artificial form of fpeech, *intra* or *extra quatuor maria*, within or without the four feas, is this, partly to affoign or excufe men from appearance in courts upon writs of fummons; for if it can truly be alleged, that the party fummoned is *oultre la mer*, beyond the fea, this is accepted as a good effoign, to fave his default. But principally to be a certain and regulated diftance, within which our law will admit of fome prefumptions, which, be-

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yond that diſtance, it will not. For example, if a huſband be within the four ſeas, and his wife has iſſue, the law preſumes the iſſue legitimate, and will admit of no proof to baſtardize the child, becauſe, within ſo little a diſtance, man and wife might clandeſtinely come together, and none can ſafely ſwear they did not; but if the huſband be out of the four ſeas, the law is otherwiſe. By the ſtatute of the eighteenth of Edward I. a fine, levied in the common bench, concludes him, who is within the four ſeas, if he puts not in his claim within a year and a day, becauſe the law preſumes him near enough, to have timely notice of ſo ſolemn an act as a fine is, and if he ſuffers himſelf to be forecloſed for want of an action or entry, imputes it to his own neglect. By the ſtatute of the fourth of Henry VII. cap. xxiv. the forementioned term of a year and a day is enlarged to five years: and what in the ſtatute of Edward I. is ſaid to be out of the four ſeas, is in this of Henry VII. ſaid to be out of the realm, as equipollent phraſes, and ſignifying the ſame thing. And if a man be out of the realm, when a fine is levied, though it be a public act, the law ſuppoſes him not to have ſufficient notice of a thing done within the realm, and therefore interpoſes an exception to the ſaving of his right. And this is all which our law books mean, when they ſay, the ſea of England is within the realm of England, as in the place quoted in the margin. But whether the ſea be ſo within the realm of England, as to be part of the territorial property of it, excluſively of all other kingdoms and ſtates, that they meddle not with. But to be within the four ſeas, and to be within the realm of England, is, as to ſome purpoſes, in conſtruction and intendment of our law, one and the ſame thing.

Our law books have many other phraſes and expreſſions of ſpecial uſe, but yet do not reach the controverted point betwixt England and other nations. As where it is ſaid, the ſea is of the liegeance of the King, and parcel of his crown of England,—*la mer eſt del liegeance del Roy, & parcel de ſon corone d'Engleterre.* And in another place, it is ſaid, the ſea of England is within the liegeance of the King, as of his crown of England. As to the King's liegeance, it ſtands thus in our law; all natives, or natural-born ſubjects, or perſons born within the King's liegeance (for theſe do tantamount) whereſoever they are, whether at ſea or land, in England or any foreign country, *quocunque ſub axe,* they ſtill owe a native, or natural and inſeparable faith and allegiance to their liege lord the King. Whilſt in England, or upon the ſeas, beſides their natural liegeance, they are within the local liegance of their own ſovereign, and under his immediate protection and defence. But when within the dominions of a foreign Prince, though, as to perſons, they ſtill retain faith to their natural ſovereign; yet, as to place, they are out of his actual obedience, and within the protection of another, which draws ſubjection along with it, and makes them the temporary local ſubjects of that other Prince. And as this is the caſe of Engliſhmen abroad, ſo is it of aliens here in England. A child born at ſea, in any of the King's ſhips, or other Engliſh veſſel, navigated by Engliſh maſter and crew, is a native: if born upon the land of England, in any fort or town poſſeſſed by an enemy, it is born out of the King's liegeance, and therefore an alien. But whereas it is ſaid, the ſea is within the liegeance of the crown of England, this is to be underſtood extenſively of the liegeance of the crown of England, that it reaches to ſea as well as land, not excluſively of the liegeance of other crowns, as if no crown had liegeance at ſea, but that of England only; or, as if no foreigner, aboard his own veſſel, within any of the four ſeas, were within the liegeance of his own natural ſovereign, for this is manifeſtly repugnant to daily fact and experience, as we ſhall ſee anon, when I come to the queſtion of fact.

As to that other expreſſion of the ſeas being parcel of the crown of England, the before-mentioned author, in the place before cited, expounds his meaning to be, that it is parcel of the inheritance of the crown of England. Thus Jetſam, Flotſam, and Lagan, appert in to the King by his prerogative.

rogative. Goods thrown over board, to lighten a ſhip in diſtreſs by weather, are called Jetſam; goods of a wrecked ſhip, floating upon the waters, are called Flotſam; goods ſunk, with a cork or buoy tied to them, to direct to the place, are called Lagan or Ligan: all theſe goods, if the ſhip periſhes, and no owner can be proved, belong to the King in right of his crown, as treaſure *trove* and *eſtrais* at land do, and all derelicts, whoſe property is loſt, the law adjudges them to the King, as owner paramount. Alſo royal fiſhes, as whales, ſturgeons, &c. taken by the King's ſubjects on the ſeas of England, appertain to the King by his prerogative, but no mention made in any of our law books, of an appropriate fiſhing, excluſive of the people and ſubjects of other princes and ſtates.

I have mentioned theſe paſſages, which occur in the books of our municipal laws, becauſe, though of excellent uſe and undeniable verity, when fitly applied to what they are deſigned and intended, yet if miſapplied to the caſe of the dominion of the four ſeas, as it ſtands betwixt England and other nations, they may and do occaſion error and miſtake. Thoſe books handle caſes betwixt ſubject and ſubject, and ſometimes betwixt crown and ſubject, but not betwixt crown and crown, I mean betwixt England and other kingdoms. Matters of this nature muſt be looked for in the public treaties and tranſactions of ſtate betwixt our Kings and foreign Princes, or in a long peaceable poſſeſſion, which we call preſcription; and theſe I ſhall examine by and by.

Thus far I have endeavoured to clear the true notion of ſea dominion, neither extending it to impeach the free navigation and commerce of peaceable traders, due to them of natural right, and by the law of nations, notwithſtanding ſuch dominion. Nor yet making it a verbal notion only conſiſting in words and forms of ſpeech, without any real fruit and effect, but have inſtanced in three weighty things, as the inſeparable incidents of it. I ſhould now proceed to the matter of fact, but as ſome, without examination, take it for granted, that the accuſtomed ſalutation at ſea by the flag and topſail, is an act of recognition and acknowledgement of the ſovereign dominion of the ſea inherent in that Prince, to whom ſuch ſalutation is performed, I ſhall crave leave to examine this in the firſt place.

CHAP. III.

What the Salutation at Sea by the Flag and Topſail ſignifies, and whether it has any Relation to the Dominion of it.

THE ſalutation at ſea by the flag and topſail, was never covenanted in any of the public treaties, betwixt England and other nations, but in thoſe with the United Netherlands only. And never in any of them till the year 1654. And I am inclinable to believe, that there were particular reaſons why it was then covenanted; partly, becauſe at that time the royal dignity of England was debaſed and diſguiſed under the obſcurer name of a Protectorate: and they who had not refuſed it to an anciently crowned head, might make ſome ſcruple to do it to a new republic. And partly, becauſe that war began upon a diſpute for the honour of the flag. I cannot ſay it was the ſole cauſe of the war, but it was the firſt occaſion of it. For whilſt Blake was in Dover Road with the Engliſh fleet, Tromp with double the number of ſhips, but not equal in goodneſs, ſtood over from the coaſt of Calais directly towards him, and came up cloſe with him, with his flag aloft, jacks and pendants

flying, and all the bravery he could display. Blake was too stout to brook the affront, and so in plain English the two Generals fell together by the ears, neither of them knowing how soon he might be called to a severe account by his superiors, for what he had done. But they justified themselves, by casting the blame one upon the other, and thus the servants quarrel soon became the masters, and both nations engaged in a fierce war; which ended in 1654, and in the thirteenth article of the treaty of peace then concluded, to prevent the like disputes for the future, it was covenanted, "That the ships of the United Provinces, as well those fitted for war, as others, which "should meet in the British seas any the ships of war of England, should strike their flag, and lower "their topsail, in such manner as had been any time practised before, under any former government." But whereas some think, that this was prejudicial to England, to take that by covenant, which they held before by prescription, I am not so clear in that opinion. For what stood before upon the foot of courtesy, or of custom at the best, was now confirmed by a supervening contract, and passed into a national law, founded upon mutual consent. And from the treaty in 1654, it passed into that made at Westminster by his late Majesty in 1662; and from thence into that made at Breda in 1667, in which, as in the former, the flag and topsail are expressly covenanted for in the British seas. But by a later treaty, viz. 1673, instead of the British seas, there is an enlargement to the seas, betwixt Cape Finisterre, to the middle point of the land Van Staten in Norway.

Here it is to be observed, that in the before-mentioned treaties, the salutation by the flag and topsail is no where said to be an acknowledgment of the sovereignty of the crown of England in and over the British seas, nor so much as intimated or implied; but, on the contrary, as it were on purpose to prevent such a construction, it is expressly said to be a respect. The words of the treaty 1673 are these: "In acknowledgment of the King of Great Britain's right to have his flag respected, "they, *i. e.* the Dutch, shall strike their flag, and lower their topsail, in the same manner, and "with the same respect, as hath, at any time, or in any place, been formerly practised." It is true, it has been offered at to make this respect pass into an acknowledgment of sovereignty, but it was but an offer, and so vanished; for in the project or concept of twenty-seven articles, delivered in the year 1653, by the then English commissioners to the Dutch ambassadors, in the fifteenth article it was thus proposed: "That the Dutch ships, both men of war and merchants, besides striking the "flag, should suffer themselves to be visited, if required, and should perform all due offices of "honour and acknowledgment to England, to whom the dominion and sovereignty of the British "seas of right appertained." But this article was rejected by the Dutch, as were several other proposals of a high nature, for it was then urged, and for some time insisted on, that there should be a coalition of England and the United Provinces, into one and the same republic; not an union only, but an adunation, not a mere coalition into a stricter bond and league of friendship, but a coalition of both into one government. But this was rejected too, as impracticable.

If the question were only concerning the antiquity of this ceremony, how long it has been practised amongst these European nations, (for it had a time when it first began, and it does not obtain universally) we have a record in our Admiralty, which would be pertinent to this purpose. It is an edict or proclamation, published by King John, at Hastings in Sussex, in the second year of his reign, near five hundred years since, and is transcribed by Mr. Selden out of the records of the Admiralty, to the following purport: "That if any ships or vessels, laden or unladen, refused to lower "their sails at the command of the King's lieutenant or admiral, or of his lieutenant, then to be "compelled to do it by fighting them, and, if taken, their ships and goods to be confiscated;" as may be seen more at large in the Mare Clausum, lib. ii. cap. 26. But the proclamation says not, that this lowering of their sails was to be done, as an acknowledgment of the King's dominion in the

Western

Western Channel, to which sea it especially relates; and yet none could have better required it than King John, for he was at that time in actual possession both of England and Normandy, and consequently was actual lord of both shores, and might have reckoned the Channel as an appendant and accession to the land, and to have followed it as the accessory does the principal; as he is lord of the intermediate river, who is lord of both the banks. But as this proclamation expresses no such thing, so neither does the penning of it seem to incline that way: for it mentions not ships of war, who, as such, ought the rather to be obliged to make such acknowledgment, as being most likely to dispute it; but only ships laden or unladen, *ness ou vesseaulx charges ou voide*, referring to merchants and traders, be their ships light or freighted; and these merchantmen are to do it, not at the command of every body, but *au commandement du Lieutenant du Roy, ou de l'Admiral du Roy, ou son Lieutenant*, at the command of the King's Lieutenant, or the King's Admiral, or his Lieutenant, intimating a personal respect due to their rank and quality, especially from simple traders.

However, it is certain, that this honorary respect or civility, call it what you will, is no natural expression of a subjection to a sovereign; for it is not founded in nature, but in institution, and is a practice peculiar to the western nations; and the modes of respect are so various in different countries, that what in one is a civility, in another is a rudeness. And as it is no natural expression of subjection, so neither is it a necessary one, as it must necessarily signify that or nothing; for lowering the flag or sails, is but like uncovering the head, by vailing the hat or bonnet, (it is so called in the journal of King Edward VI. wrote with his own hand,) which, amongst us, is used as a token of subjection to our King, of respect to our superiors, of civility to our equals, of courtesy to our inferiors. Thus we see one and the same specific act of uncovering the head, as it relates to persons of different orders and degrees, admits of divers significations. Some of our sea captains, though irregularly enough, and for want of explicit orders, have required of the Dutch the honour of the flag and topsail in the Mediterranean and Baltic, where the crown of England never pretended sovereignty. And as in the before-mentioned treatise of 1673, it is particularly named a respect, so it is covenanted to be done, not only within the British seas, but every where betwixt the Capes, Finisterre in Spain, and Staten in Norway, beyond the limits of the sea sovereignty of England, and consequently has no relation to it. Besides, this honour to the King's flag is required from his own subjects, but it is needless to require from them an acknowledgment of sovereignty, to whose benefit it redounds; the import is, that foreigners would acknowledge it, to whose profit it is opposed.

Now, if this ceremony does not relate to an acknowledgment of a sovereignty in the sea, what does it relate to? And what is the true import and signification of it? I answer, it imports these two things:

I. It is *cultus superioris*, it is a reverence or respect performed to a person of superior quality and degree.

II. It is *symbolum pacis & amicitiæ*, it is a sign or symbolical expression of peace and friendship.

Sometimes it signifies both these together, and sometimes but one of them, according to the different degrees of the persons performing it; but it always signifies one of them, and never any thing more. The Dutch, and other smaller republics, perform it, both as a respect to the crowned head of England, and as a salutation of peace and friendship also. But crowned heads cannot perform it as to one of a superior order, because they are in a parity and equality of degree; but they do it upon the latter account only, as it is an expression of peace and amity. The Dutch and others do not, by the flag and topsail, recognise the King of England as sovereign of the four seas, nor acknowledge themselves thereby his local subjects, and their persons, ships, and goods, to be under his immediate

diate jurifdiction and protection, whilft in and upon thofe feas; but they acknowledge him as pre-eminent in order and quality, not as fovereign over them, but as fuperior to them in dignity and degree. Were I to exprefs it in Latin, I would do it by that old Roman phrafe of *comiter colere*, or *obfervare majeftatem*, they pay honour or refpect to the majefty of a crowned ifland. And as to the crowned heads, though they cannot, as I faid before, pay refpect to a fuperior, becaufe of the parity of their degree; yet, as to the fea falutation by the flag and topfail, there is a peculiarity on the part of England, even in reference to them. A foreign King, when fhips of war of another nation approach his havens, and come within reach of his caftles, will expect, and juftly may, that the comer fhall falute him firft; the gueft or ftranger gives the firft falute to the mafter of the houfe, who thereupon refalutes him, and bids him welcome. And what does this falutation fignify, be it by lowering flag and topfail, or by firing guns, but that they are come armed before his doors only as friends, and without intention of doing him hurt? But the peculiarity on the part of England confifts in this; England is an ifland, whofe frontier is the fea, whofe forts and caftles are the fhips of the royal navy, which bear analogy and proportion to the frontier towns and fortified places of inland dominions; and therefore when met with in the feas of England by the fhips of war belonging to any other crowned head, thefe latter ought not to approach the fhips of war of England, who are in their ftations upon their guard and duty, with a flag aloft in a pofture of challenge and defiance; but do, in their courfe and paffage, call to the guard fhips of England, to tell them, " they " are friends;" and what they cannot do by words at that diftance, they do by mute figns, by ftriking their flag or topfail, which in effect exprefs thofe words. And when they falute thofe guard-fhips, by difcharging their guns, it is, in effect, to tell them, they were not charged againft them; and though they fteer their courfe along the coafts of an open ifland, yet they defign no hoftility. This is no diminution to the majefty of any monarch, how great foever, and were the falutation thus ftated with crowned heads, it would be lefs controverted, and the crown of England lofe nothing by it neither.

But if the Dutch perform this ceremony, as a refpect to a crowned head, without relation to a fea fovereignty, why not to France as well as England? fince they are equally crowned heads, and one has one bank of the Channel, and the other has the other: and what fhall then become of the peculiar prerogative of the crown of England? This peculiarity on the part of England, as an ifland whofe principal defence is at fea, I have touched already. But as to the Dutch performing equal refpect at fea to the crown of France, as to that of England, I do not doubt, but they will do it when required thereto. And what remedy is there againft it, unlefs by contract? For though I may not be covered when I will, yet I may put off my hat and be uncovered when and to whom I pleafe. The Dutch fteer their courfe by the pole-ftar of trade, not by the punctilios of honour. And were this conftruction put upon their ftriking their flag to the flag of England, that it is a recognition of a fea fovereignty; they would do the fame to France the rather, and not as a thing impofed, but upon choice, thereby to difpropriate and lay common, what England would inclofe as her property. Nor would it be a new thing for France to fet up for the honour of the flag and topfail, for it was exprefsly ftipulated in the twelfth article of the league offenfive and defenfive, made in the year 1635, betwixt Lewis XIII. and the States General, that upon occafion of any conjunction of the French and Dutch fleets, " The Dutch Admiral fhould firft falute the French " with flag and topfail, and fire his guns, in fuch manner as had been practifed towards the King " of Great Britain upon the like occafion." And Henry II. and Henry III. of France, did both of them publifh their royal edicts, one in the year 1555, the other in 1580, commanding all foreign fhips indefinitely (I fuppofe traders) to lower their topfails to the fhips of war of France, upon pain of

of feizure and confifcation; and fome Hamburghers were forcibly taken, for not conforming to thofe edicts. But may not the prefent French King fay, what Cæfar once did, *Sylla fecit, non ipfe faciam?* Did the two Henrys do this in the faint times of their languifhing reigns, and fhall not I do it, who can cover with fleets of war the three feas, which cover the coafts of France? I have read fomewhere in the French memoirs, I think in thofe of the Duke de Sully, that the whole naval ftrength of the crown of France, in the beginning of Henry IV. was about half a dozen fhips of war, fuch as they were, at Breft and Rochelle, and about a fcore of gallies in the Mediterranean. But this laft-named great King dreffed a new plan of the French monarchy, and drew out the lines of it larger than before; and though his great defign was interrupted by an immature death, and by the fucceeding minority of his fon, yet the great Cardinal, I mean Richlieu, refumed it again. He firft taught France, that the French flower-de-luces could grow at fea as well as land. He decked and adorned the lofty fterns of his new built fhips with this prophetic infcription——*Florent quoque lilia ponto.*

Having done with the fea falutation, I come to the fourth general head, under which,

CHAP IV.

The whole Matter of Fact between the Crown of England and Foreign Princes and States, in the feveral Incidents of Sea Dominion, is diftinctly examined and impartially reported.

I AM now upon a queftion of fact only, how far this dominion and fovereignty in the feas has been acknowledged, as a right inherent in the crown of England, by any of the neighbouring nations; either exprefsly in public treaties and tranfactions of ftate, or impliedly, by an immemorial, peaceable, and uninterrupted poffeffion, commonly called prefcription. This I call the queftion of fact, and diftinguifh it from that of right, to which it is fubfequent. For a right to any thing, in one, is antecedent to the acknowledgment of it by another, and though his non-acknowledgment may render it controverted, yet it may be a juft right and legal claim notwithftanding. The right of the crown of England to the dominion of the feas I meddle not with, it ftands, as it did, unmoveable, like *Terminus* in the capitol with a *cedo nulli*, it gives place to none. But the enquiry is, whether in fact it has been confented to by foreign nations; by which teft, we fhall be able to difcover, whether the crown of England has loft any thing in matter of fea fovereignty, which it formerly poffeffed. In order to which, I fhall diftinctly handle and examine the three great and infeparable incidents of the fovereignty, which I before named.

I. The exclufion of foreign men of war from paffing upon any the feas of England, without fpecial licence, for that purpofe, firft obtained.

II. The fole marine jurifdiction within thofe feas.

III. The appropriate fifhery.

I begin with the firft, and the enquiry is, whether any fovereign Prince or State, having occafion to enter upon any the feas of England, with men of war, either in entire fleets, or as convoys to merchants, have firft afked leave fo to do of the King of England, as the fupreme lord of the territory.

I have

I have often met with a traditional ſtory, both in diſcourſe and in printed pamphlets; that Queen Elizabeth having intelligence that Henry IV. of France had a deſign to increaſe the naval ſtrength of his kingdom, and to equip a conſiderable fleet of war, not only for the Mediterranean, but for the ſeas alſo toward England, ſhe ſent to bid him deſiſt from it. That the Queen might requeſt him not to put out on theſe ſeas with an unuſual fleet, as that which might occaſion jealouſy in her ſubjects, and oblige her to an extraordinary expence in arming proportionably, and conſequently weaken the amity and good aſſurance betwixt the two crowns; I ſay that ſhe might do this, for I do not find that ſhe did it, is neither morally impoſſible, nor wholly diſagreeable to the practice among princes. But that ſhe did, *pro jure*, interdict and forbid him ſo doing, as an intrenchment and invaſion of her right, by entering with an armed force upon the territories of her crown, without her leave; for this I ſhall ſuſpend my belief till better vouchers be produced. It is too common amongſt men, firſt, to form their opinions, and then to ſeek their proofs; and ſome, rather than not find them, will deviſe them.

There is another current ſtory of the ſame alloy; that Queen Elizabeth ſeized in the Bay of Caſcais in Portugal, ſixty laden ſhips belonging to the Hans-Towns of Germany, and afterwards confiſcated both ſhips and goods, "for having preſumptuouſly paſſed over her ſeas, without firſt obtaining her royal permiſſion." In this, ſeveral miſtakes are complicated together, one in law, and two in fact. That in law is this,—ſuppoſing the ſeas to have been univerſally acknowledged as the Queen's undoubted right, yet ought not the Hanſeatics, who were friends and peaceable traders, and purſuing their lawful occaſions, to have been confiſcated, for not aſking leave of paſſage over thoſe ſeas, had there been nothing more in the caſe, becauſe they needed not in law ſo to have done. No more than a market-man needs aſk leave of the owner to paſs his field, over which the market-path lies. The two miſtakes in fact are theſe.

1. The ſaid ſixty ſail of ſhips did not in fact paſs the ſeas of England, and therefore could not be confiſcated upon that account. Mr. Camden, our faithful annaliſt, ſays expreſsly, and ſo does Thuanus too, that they paſſed on the north of Scotland, by the Orcades, Hebrides, and great Weſtern Ocean on the backſide of Ireland, a long and dangerous paſſage, to avoid being intercepted in the Channel by the Queen's ſhips.

2. The ſole reaſon why they were confiſcated was this; becauſe they carried goods of *contrabanda*, prohibited goods, viz. corn, which at that time Spain wanted, and naval proviſions to the relief of an enemy, who, at that time, was preparing a new fleet for the invaſion of England, in revenge of the diſgrace he had received the year before, viz. in 1588. And this they did contrary to the Queen's proclamation and monitory letters to the Hans-Towns, whereby ſhe forbad them to ſupply Spain, her declared enemy, with ſuch proviſions, under the penalty of forfeiting ſhips and goods. Thus the Dutch, in the year 1652, when by their intereſt and influence in the court of Denmark, they had cauſed an Engliſh fleet of above twenty merchantmen, laden with pitch, tar, flax, hemp, and other naval ſtores, to be arreſted in the Sound, ſuppoſing that England, with whom they were then at war, would be diſtreſſed for want of ſuch proviſions, they publiſhed a placart, forbidding all in general to import into England any of the aforeſaid materials, upon pain of confiſcation thereof, as being a relief to an enemy, in things they particularly wanted for proſecuting the war againſt them. I inquire not here, *quo jure*, by what right the Dutch did this; and whether it was not a violation of the free commerce of neutral nations. But I only inſtance in the fact, as parallel with what the Queen did: nay, the States did far more than what the Queen did, comes to; for they, in the year 1599, almoſt in the infancy of their republic, publiſhed a placart, forbidding all nations any commerce with Spain, not in this or that prohibited commodity, but in all goods and merchandiſes whatſoever. *Vetant*

populos quoscunque ullos commeatus resve alias in Hispaniam ferre. They are the very words of Grotius, in his Belgic Annals, the eighth book: this by the way only.

If we consult the public treaties which have been made betwixt England and other sovereigns, concerning ships of war passing these seas, we shall find the manner to have been as follows. The usual covenants are, and have been, that the ships of war, of either side, may freely come into the roads, havens, and rivers, each of the other, provided they be not in such number as may occasion suspicion; and therefore the number is ascertained, and not to be exceeded, unless to avoid imminent danger, and in such case, notice to be given thereof. For example: in the treaty concluded at Madrid, in the year 1630, betwixt Charles I. of England, and Philip IV. of Spain, which treaty was but a renewal of the former made with King James, in the year 1604, it is, in the eighth article, agreed, "That it shall be lawful to have access unto each others ports with ships of war, whether they shall arrive there, either by force of tempest, or for necessary repairs, or for provision of victuals; so they exceed not eight, when they come of their own accord, nor stay longer than they shall have cause. And when any greater number shall have occasion of access, they are not to enter the port, without the privity or consent of the King." This is the form of all the treaties; and articles, like to this, have been agreed betwixt England and France, and England and Holland, but they are always reciprocal; and as their ships of war are restrained from access to the English ports, so are the English from access to theirs in equal manner. And it is to be observed, that the restraint is only from access to each others ports, but never any restraint of foreign ships of war from entering, in what number they please, the seas of England. Thus in the year 1639, which was but nine years after the treaty before-mentioned at Madrid, a Spanish fleet, of above sixty sail, equipped for war, entered the Western Channel, without leave first asked, bound for Ostend, to supply the Spanish Netherlands with men, munition, and other necessaries, and passed the Channel to the height of Dover. And the Dutch fleet put out in like manner upon the North-east Sea, and fought the Spanish fleet in the Downs. It is true, that Sir John Pennington, who then commanded the English guard, endeavoured to hinder them from fighting so near the ports, to the disturbance of the security and protection of them, and troubling the commerce and intercourse of the King's lieges and allies. But no complaint was made, either then or afterwards, of the two fleets of war entering the seas aforesaid, parcel of the dominion and territory of the crown of England, without a special licence first asked and obtained. And it would be time mis-spent to recount how often either Spaniards, French, or Dutch, have entered these seas with armed fleets and convoys. as their occasions obliged them, freely, without leave and without controul. I speak not here of the private notices and intimations, which one Prince may, in a friendly manner, give another, to satisfy him of the reason of any extraordinary military preparations, and of the clearness of his intentions towards him: but of a formal previous leave to be asked and obtained by a foreign prince or state, before they put out to sea, upon the maritime territory of the crown of England, in a warlike equipage.

In the year 1652, the States General gave public notice, by their ambassadors here in England, that they had resolved to fit out to sea an extraordinary fleet of one hundred and fifty men of war, besides those in present service, for the security and preservation of their navigation and commerce. They did not ask leave to do it, but first resolved upon it, and then gave notice, and they pretended this notice was an argument of their sincerity and good-will, in order to prevent all misunderstandings, and sinister interpretations. But they in England understood it otherwise, and resented it as a bravado and insult.

I pass

I pass now to the second incident of the sovereignty, to examine the matter of fact as to that, viz. The Marine Jurisdiction.

It is commonly affirmed by English writers, that our King Richard I. (the French give a different account) did, in his return from the Holy Land, make and declare certain marine laws, for the better regulation of commerce, which, from the place of their first publication, were called the laws of Oleron: a small island, situate in the Bay of Aquitain, and a member of that great and wealthy Dutchy, which was in the actual possession of King Richard, as his maternal inheritance; for it came to his father Henry II. by marriage with Eleanor, daughter and heiress of William Duke of Aquitain. And by the way it may be noted, that this dutchy, either in whole or part, continued in possession of the Kings of England by ten descents, to the thirty-second of Henry VI. near three hundred years, though that of Normandy continued but five descents, and ended in King John. But whether these laws were published, as aforesaid, by King Richard, or whether about sixty years after, as some printed editions would have them, is not an enquiry pertinent to this place. Be it admitted, those laws were published by King Richard, who was actual Duke both of Aquitain and Normandy, and in right of the latter, lord on both sides the English Channel. The great intercourse betwixt his English and French subjects, and those of his allies, required a certain rule of sea-laws for the more speedy and impartial determination of all controversies which might occasionally arise. These laws of Oleron, as to the main of them, are but a transcript of the old Rhodian laws, with some additions and amendments, accommodated to the practice of that age, and the customs of the western nations; who thereupon might readily conform to them, as to a common standard and measure, like a law of nations, for the more equal distribution of justice amonst the people of different governments. But to infer from hence an universal monarchy at sea, and that King Richard, in right of his imperial crown of England, and ducal crowns of Normandy and Aquitain, did, as sole or supreme legislator for the marine, authoritatively impose sea-laws upon the people and subjects of other nations, is but a strained inference. The Romans were far enough from yielding a sea sovereignty to the little republic of Rhodes, and yet were so well satisfied with the equity of their sea-laws, that they not only conformed to them, but incorporated them into the body of their digest. And as the Rhodian laws obtained in the Mediterranean, and the laws of Oleron in the Western and English Seas: so the laws of Wisbuy, a town situate upon the little isle of Gotland, in the eastern part of the Baltic, formerly under Denmark, now under the crown of Sweden, called from thence *Leges Wisbuccenses*, were received by the general consent of the northern traders, as a common measure for all nautical affairs, to the northwards of the Rhine, and throughout the whole Baltic.

That the sea is within the jurisdiction of the King of England, is a matter unquestionable, not at home only, but amongst all nations. His Admiral has, and ever had, through a long series of ages, the conusance of all contracts, pleas, and quarrels made upon the sea, out of the body of any county of England. Which power is enlarged by the statute of the fifteenth of Richard II. cap. ii. to death, and mayhem upon great ships in the main stream of great rivers. And by the statute of twenty-eighth of Henry VIII. cap. xv. a court of commission may be held under the great seal, *coram admirallo*, &c. to hear and determine all treasons, felonies, robberies, &c. done or committed upon the sea. But then it is evident and undeniable also, that the neighbouring kingdoms and states, who border upon the sea, have their distinct admiralties likewise, and have long since had, where their subjects and people receive final sentence in all maritime causes, without exception of any seas, or without appeal to the admiralty of England, as the last resort, or as having supreme conusance of all things done and committed in and upon the British Seas. If a French or Dutch vessel take a pirate

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of what nation ſoever, who has committed a robbery upon the Engliſh Seas, they do not remit him to the Admiralty of England, as the ſole tribunal of the place, where the fact was done, to receive ſentence; but they carry him before their own judicatories, and judge him as an enemy of mankind by the law of nations. If one foreigner does any injury to another, be it fraud or violence, upon the Britiſh Seas, the party injured makes not his complaint to the Admiralty of England, as the proper court, and as having the ſole juridical conuſance of his plea, but reſorts to the juriſdiction of his own Sovereign, or to that of the Sovereign of the wrong-doer, and there impleads him, and prays for juſtice. If a Frenchman kill a Frenchman, one alien another, upon the land of England, the fact is committed within the local liegeance of the King of England, and againſt the peace and protection of his crown, and therefore triable before his courts; but if two Engliſhmen be under the pay and ſervice of the French King, and one of them kill the other, on board a French man of war, within the four ſeas, the French King's judicature will have the conuſance of the crime, as done within his liegance, and againſt the peace and protection of his crown.

Thus ſtands the matter of fact, as to the marine juriſdiction, and thus it has been for many ages; but yet there is an ancient precedent, which ſeems to impugn ſomething that has been ſaid, and not to take notice of it, were to report things unfaithfully; and, therefore, I crave leave to examine it. It is a bundle or roll in the Tower of London, ſuperſcribed, De Superioritate Maris Angliæ, &c. Jure Officii Admiralitus in eodem: record, I can ſcarce call it, for it is not any judicial act or monument of a court of record; and it may be read, as it is tranſcribed at large by Lord Chief Juſtice Coke, and by Mr. Selden, who ſtrongly inſiſts upon it.

I ſhall abbreviate it truly; and, in ſhort, the caſe was this:

A league had been concluded betwixt Edward I. of England, and Philip the Fair of France, in which it was covenanted, that each ſhould defend the other's rights, and neither relieve the other's enemy. After this, a war enſued betwixt Philip and the Earl of Flanders, whom Edward ſecretly favoured. Whereupon, Reynald Grimbald, who was General at ſea for the King of France, took ſeveral ſhips both of England and of other nations trading to Flanders, and confiſcated ſhips and goods, and impriſoned perſons, as carrying relief to an enemy. Upon which, and other complaints, commiſſioners were appointed by both Kings, called in the roll, writ in Norman French, *Auditour's Deputez per les Roys d'Engleterre & de France a redreſſer les Damages faits.* The plaintiffs, who were of ſeveral nations, appear by their procurators or attorneys before the ſaid commiſſioners, and join altogether in one bill or libel, as being all involved in one common cauſe. In the rehearſal of the ſaid libel, it is alleged, that, "Whereas the Kings of England, by reaſon of the ſaid kingdom, "from time to time, whereof there is no memory to the contrary, have been in peaceable poſſeſſion "of the ſovereign dominion of the Sea of England, and of the iſles of the ſame, by ordaining of "laws, &c. And whereas it is covenanted in the league lately made betwixt the two Kings, that "each ſhould defend the other's rights, franchiſes, and liberties, &c. Monſieur Reyner Grimbald, "commander of the Fleet of the King of France, who names himſelf Admiral of the ſaid Sea, being "commiſſioned by that King to ſerve him in his war againſt Flanders, hath, contrary to the ſaid "league, wrongfully aſſumed the office of the admiralty of the ſaid ſea of England, upon pretence "of the ſaid commiſſion, taking the people and merchants, &c. They pray that the perſons, ſhips, "and goods, ſo taken, may be delivered to our Admiral of the King of England, to whom the "conuſance of the whole matter of right appertained."

He who ſhall read more at large, in the places before-quoted, the magnificent attributes given to the Kings of England, of their being peaceably poſſeſſed, time immemorial, of the ſovereign dominion of the ſea of England, by ordaining laws and ſtatutes, prohibiting arms and armed veſſels,

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taking ſureties, and giving ſafeguards, and ordaining all other things neceſſary to the preſervation of peace and right amongſt all people paſſing upon that ſea, &c. will at firſt view be ready to cry out, *Fuimus Troes, fuit Ilium!*—We were Engliſhmen! England was! And yet perhaps no need of ſuch exclamation. At firſt reading, it ſeemed to me, at ſome diſtance, like a ſtone wall athwart my way, and no poſſibility of paſſing further; but, when I examined it more nearly, I found it but a ſilken curtain of ſpecious words, drawn artificially before the eye, and eaſy to be put back by the hand.

Firſt, It is to be obſerved, that all this is but a *plaidoyé*, a plea or action, a ſupplicatory libel, or bill of complaint. No definitive ſentence or arreſt, nothing that did paſs in *rem judicatam*. This alone, were there nothing more, is ſufficient to abate the intrinſic value of it. The roll makes no mention of any deciſion given by the delegates upon any the matters contained in the libel, and either none was given, which ſeems moſt probable, and thoſe controverſies decided ſome other way, or the roll is left imperfect.

Secondly, Though the intereſſents of ſeveral nations, as Danes, Germans, Hollanders, &c. ſuffered damage by the ſeizures of Grimbald, in like manner as the Engliſh did, and therefore joined with them in the ſame libel; yet the libel was penned by the Engliſh Council, as is manifeſt by the addreſs or direction of it; *A vous Seigneurs Auditeurs deputez,* To you, Lords Auditors deputed, *par les Roys d'Engleterre & de France,* by the Kings of England and France; where England has the preference of order to France, contrary to the ſtile of neutral nations of that age.

Thirdly, The allegation, of the Kings of England, having been time immemorial in the peaceable poſſeſſion of the ſovereignty of the ſea, was not made by the French delegates in the name of the King their maſter, but by Engliſh advocates in favour of their client's cauſe. The French King had commiſſioned Grimbald to exerciſe juriſdiction at ſea, by arreſting and confiſcating ſhips and goods, and impriſoning perſons, for carrying relief to the Earl of Flanders, his enemy, by which commiſſion Grimbald juſtified himſelf for doing ſuch acts, as were manifeſtly repugnant to the peaceable poſſeſſion of the ſaid ſovereign dominion on the part of England. If the King of France had acknowledged the Admiral of England, the only competent judge of things done and committed upon the ſea of England, why did he, together with the King of England, depute auditors or delegates for determining thoſe matters then in controverſy?

Fourthly, The art in penning the ſaid libel is remarkable: it affirms, the marine juriſdiction of the Admiral of England; but it does not except againſt a power in the King of France, to conſtitute an Admiral with the like juriſdiction, and that upon the ſea towards Flanders. For it is certain, that the crown of France had admirals before the time of Philip the Fair. It is true, that great body of the kingdom of France had been cantonized and divided, after the manner of the German nations, into many *franca feuda*, as they called them, free fees, which are ſupreme and independent ſovereignties, only the perſons of thoſe ſovereigns under a perſonal obligation of fealty to another. The reſpective feudatory princes were fiduciary homagers to the Kings of France, but the crown of France had no regal juriſdiction or authority within thoſe principalities. Thus, the great dukedoms of Aquitain and Normandy were under the Kings of England, that of Britanny was under a duke of its own, the earldoms of Provence, Toulouſe, and Flanders, acknowledged their own ſovereign Counts.

67 In thoſe days, the crown of France had only a ſmall ſea-coaſt upon Picardy, and ſome in the Mediterranean: but, in the time of Philip the Fair, that crown was in the actual poſſeſſion of all Normandy: and, as the other principalities became incorporated into the body of France, from whence they had formerly been diſmembered, as now they all are, excepting ſome part of Flanders; that

that kingdom, as it enlarged itself to the sea, by the accession of many new coasts, so the marine jurisdiction thereof increased proportionably. I say, the fore-recited libel does not deny a civil power or capacity in the crown of France to create an admiral, and to invest him with marine jurisdiction; but the exception is partly against Grimbald, and partly against his illegal practices and seizures, contrary to the alliance made betwixt the two Kings. Now this Grimbald was a foreigner, and a mercenary; he was a Genoese, whom the King of France had hired, with several gallies of that republic, to serve him in his war against Flanders. The plaintiffs, in their libel, call him *Maistre de la Navy du Roy de France*, Master or Commander of the French fleet, but would not vouchsafe him the title of an Admiral, only *Que se dit estre Admiral*, that he called himself an Admiral, and craftily reclaim the cognizance of their cause from him, as an incompetent judge, to the Admiral of England, as an undoubted authority, and before whom they were sure to gain their process.

I have done with the marine jurisdiction, and proceed now to the third and last incident of the dominion of the sea, and which inseparably follows it, and that is the sole fishing; without which, it would be a property without profit, a name without a thing. He who has the soil or ground, has the herbage, and other growth of it, or else a rent for it; if others may freely depasture with him, it is a common. The enquiry is upon the matter of fact, as to fishing upon the seas about England, in which our public treaties made betwixt our Kings and other Sovereigns, will be our best direction; and they stand thus:—All the ancient treaties I could meet with, concluded betwixt the several Kings of England and their old confederates the Dukes Britanny and Burgundy, which in those ages were the most powerful neighbours they had at sea, are of the same tenor, and run in the same form, viz. They covenant on both sides, that their respective subjects should freely, and without the let or hinderance one of another, fish every where upon the seas, without asking any licences, passports, or safe-conducts. This is the general form of them all. For example: in the treaty betwixt Edward the Fourth of England, and Francis Duke of Britanny, the article, in the French of that time, runs thus:—That the fishermen, both of the kingdom of England and duchy of Britanny, *purront peaceablement aller par tout sur mer pour pescher & gaigner leur vivre, sans impeachement, ou disturber de l'une partie ou de l'autre, & sans leur soit besoigne sur ceo requirir sauf conduct.* And the same form had been used before, in the treaty betwixt Henry the Sixth and the then Duchess of Burgundy. Thus also, in the famous treaty called *Intercursus Magnus*, made in the year 1495, betwixt Henry the Seventh of England, and Philip the Fourth, Archduke of Austria, and Duke of Burgundy, in the fourteenth article it is agreed, *Quod piscatores utriusque partis poterint ubique ire, navigare per mare, secure piscari, absque impedimento licentia seu salvo conductu.* And this form is also preserved in the treaty made betwixt Henry the Eighth and Charles the Fifth, Emperor and Duke of Burgundy. In the time of Queen Elizabeth, after that seven of the seventeen provinces had set up distinct sovereignties of their own, they still enjoyed the same freedom of fishing as they had done before, when united with the house of Burgundy. And in the treaty made betwixt King James of England and Philip of Spain, in the year 1604, the ancient treaties of intercourse and commerce betwixt the kingdoms of England, Scotland, and Ireland, and the dominions of the Dukes of Burgundy, and Princes of the Low Countries, are revived and re-confirmed. From whence it appears, upon the whole matter of fact, that the Kings of England, in their treaties with other Sovereigns, not once or twice, but in a succession of ages, not by surprize, but deliberately, and when the business of the fishery came under special consultation, did not challenge to themselves the sole right thereof, exclusively of all others, as being appropriated to the crown of England: for had they esteemed the fishery the property of their crown, and all aliens excluded from it, they would not have admitted the subjects of Britanny and Burgundy to a promiscuous fishing with their

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own subjects, without some valuable consideration had been given for it, or at least some licence obtained, as a beneficiary grant derived from them, or some acknowlegement made by way of a *salvo jure*, to the right of the crown of England: else it would be as unreasonable, as if a man should throw down the inclosures of his own ground, and lay that common which before was his property, which is too gross a reflection upon the wisdom of those ages. And this may be further illustrated by a familiar instance. Suppose here in England two great manors, and betwixt them a large lake of fresh water, well stored with fish, and it can be proved, that not only time out of mind, the tenants of the two manors have promiscuously fished therein, but that also the lords of both manors have, in several ages, contracted with each other for a free fishing, without leave or licence to be first asked or obtained for their respective tenants. And, in the contract, no exception or reservation is made of the fishery, as parcel of the inheritance of one of the said manors, nor any words creating a tenure, whereby one should hold of the other; nor expressing nor implying, that it was but a temporary sufferance, that one of the lords should share for a time in the profits of the fishing, without any share in the fee or inheritance of it: and this by the free donation of the other, commonly called *de gratia speciali*, or for a valuable consideration, usually termed, *quid pro quo*, or to hold by some small acknowledgement or tenure, as of a pepper corn yearly. But the contract stands on both sides upon an equal foot, both lords equally giving and taking an undisturbed liberty for their respective tenants. This, I humbly conceive, is good evidence that the fishery lies common to both manors. Suppose again this lake to be the sea, and the two manors to be two kingdoms, and the case will still be the same.

None of our leagues and treaties made either with the house of Burgundy, or with the house of Austria, since the union of those two houses, or with the States-General, since their disunion from both, have ever reserved to the crown of England, any annual payment, fee-farm, or consideration for their liberty of fishing in our seas. A certain sum was never agreed, an uncertain one could never be demanded. And yet Sir John Boroughs, in his book of The Sovereignty of the British Seas, says, that Philip the Second, King of Spain, obtained of Queen Mary, his wife, licence for his subjects to fish upon the north coasts of Ireland, they paying yearly for the same one thousand pounds sterling, which was accordingly paid into the Exchequer of Ireland. But, instead of an authentic record, he vouches only the hearsay of Sir Edward Fitton, son to Sir Henry Fitton, some time Treasurer of Ireland, who, he says, had often testified it. This may the rather be suspected of mistake, because Mr. Camden relates, how that Queen Elizabeth having sent four ambassadors, whereof one was principal Secretary of State, and not likely to be supposed ignorant of such an affair, to treat at Bremen with the ambassadors of Denmark, upon complaint of that King's forbidding foreigners the freedom of fishing betwixt Norway and Iceland, both appertaining to the crown of Denmark: the Queen's ambassadors openly affirmed, that the Kings of England had in no time forbid the freedom of fishing in the Irish sea, albeit they were lords of both banks.

Mr. Camden also, in his Description of the North Riding of Yorkshire, speaking of Scarborough Castle, says, that the Hollanders and Zealanders take wonderful quantities of herring upon this coast; *cum veniam prius veteri instituto ex hoc Castro impetraverint:* whereas they were wont, by ancient use, to ask leave first of the Castle. For, says he, the English always gave leave to fish, reserving that honour to themselves, but slothfully resigning the profit to others. But all this while, he quotes no authority neither, nor directs us to any original record, where we might consult the plain truth of the case. Perhaps what he historically calls asking leave, was but giving notice of their arrival, and acquainting the governor who they were, and what their business was upon the coast, lest, under the disguise of fishermen, pirates and enemies might privily hide themselves. And probably

bably he, by his civilities to the fishermen, might make some perquisites and profits to his place, by permitting them, as occasion required, to dry their nets ashore, to fetch victual or fresh water from land, to fish within the havens and bays, where commonly the best-fed fish are taken. But it is not likely that the governor of Scarborough had so indefinite a power, as to enable him to give leave, upon bare asking, without any farther condition or consideration, to all foreigners, to fish at pleasure, within the royalties of the crown. However, it is too manifest, that no prince nor state did ever pay to the crown of England any yearly sum of money, or other valuable consideration, for the liberty of their subjects fishing upon the seas of England: for, had such sum been paid, it would have passed into the accompt of the Exchequer, as a branch of the royal revenue, and there remain upon record.

As for the case of my Lord of Northumberland, in the year 1636, that is extraordinary, and will not pass for a precedent. The Dutch busses were then required by the English admiral to take licences from him for fishing in the northern seas, and to pay moderate rates for the obtaining those licences, which they did, to redeem themselves from the forcible molestations of a well-appointed fleet. So that this was the compulsory act of private persons, not the voluntary act of the States-General; who were so far from consenting to what was done, that they made remonstrances and complaints of this proceeding by their ambassadors here in England.

And as it appears not by the records of the Exchequer, that any recompence was given by foreigners for liberty of fishing within our seas; so neither does it appear by any the public treaties, that the subjects of any foreign Prince should ask leave for so doing, by stipulation and contract, though they were sure to have it without paying any thing, only, by the bare asking, to keep in memory a perpetual acknowledgement of a beneficiary grant derived from the crown of England, as supreme lord of the fee. On the contrary, the treaties caution for a liberty of fishing, *absq; licentia*, without any leave or licence first to be asked. And yet England has asked leave, and covenanted so to do, of a foreign crown. I would not have mentioned this, had it been a secret; but it is a thing public and in print. By a treaty made and concluded in the year 1490, betwixt Henry VII. of England, and John II. of Denmark, which treaty was afterwards renewed betwixt our Henry VIII. and their Christiern II. in the year 1523, it was mutually covenanted, that the liegemen, merchants, and fishermen of England, should fish and traffic upon the Northern Sea, betwixt Norway and Iceland; but under a proviso of first asking leave, and renewing their licences from seven years to seven years, *de septennio in septennium*, from the Kings of Denmark and Norway and their successors: they are the words of the treaties. But as navigation enlarged, and England grew more opulent in trade, and potent at sea, all this is gone into utter disuse and discontinuance; and the Kings of England may with better right prohibit the subjects of Denmark from passing the English Sea or Channel, without special licence first obtained, than the Kings of Denmark can, the subjects of England from passing the Northern Sea betwixt Denmark and Iceland.

There is a record, which Mr. Selden quotes out of a Parliament Roll of King Richard II. that is very remarkable. It is a grant in Parliament of an imposition, according to certain rates and proportions, upon all vessels passing or fishing within the Admiralty of the North, viz. upon the sea northwards from the mouth of the Thames. The rates were as follow:

I. To take of every ship, going and coming upon that sea, six pence a ton for the voyage.

II. To take of every vessel fishing for herring, six pence a ton by the week.

III. To take of vessels fishing for other fish, six pence a ton for every three weeks.

IV. Of ships laden at Newcastle with coals, six pence a ton for every three months.

V. To

V. To take, of all other ſhips paſſing the ſea within the ſaid Admiralty, laden in Pruſſia, Norway, Sconen, or elſewhere in thoſe parts, ſix-pence a laſt for the voyage.

Some collect and infer from hence, (I confeſs, I cannot) that King Richard, by aſſent in Parliament, did impoſe theſe rates, not only upon ſubjects, but foreigners, for trading and fiſhing within the North-eaſt Sea, as part of the territorial property of the crown. Were it ſo, it would be a matter of mighty weight and moment. But it is queſtionable, whether thoſe words of univerſality, *cheſcun nief & cheſcun veſſeau*, (for the roll is written in Norman French) every ſhip and every veſſel, ought not to be reſtrained to Engliſh veſſels only, and not extended to thoſe of foreigners, and if extended to foreigners, ſince the grant is ſaid to be made, *per l'Advis des merchands de Londres & de autres merchands vers la north*, it is worth the conſidering, whether theſe words, " other merchants towards the north," are not in like manner to be extended to foreigners as well as natives; that is to ſay, to Hanſeatics, and all other merchants, whether Engliſh or others, dwelling or trading towards the north; who, having often occaſion to paſs and repaſs the northern ſea, at that time infeſted with rovers, adviſed the ſaid grant: which word implies a requeſt or deſire, ſomewhat more than a bare conſent. And what was this impoſt for, which they adviſed might be laid upon all their ſhips and veſſels? The roll tells us expreſsly, that it was *pur la garde & tuition du mier*, &c. for the guard and ſecurity of the ſea and of the coaſts of the admiralty of the north, with two ſhips, two barges, and two ballengers, armed and arrayed for war. And it is moſt probable, that not the King himſelf, but private perſons, commiſſioned from him, undertook, at their own expence, to equip and arm the ſaid veſſels, for the benefit of the merchants, and ſecurity of their commerce, and by this rated impoſt to be reimburſed their charge, and rewarded for their ſervice. This may be collected from the firſt article in the roll, where there is an exception of ſhips laden with merchandizes in Flanders, bound for London, and laden with wool and ſkins at London, or elſewhere within the admiralty of the north, to be unladen at Calais, of which ſhips the ſix-pence per ton aforeſaid was not to be required. But then it follows, *les queux niefs les gardeins de la dicte mer ne ſeront tenus de les conduire ſans eſtre allouez*,—the guardians of the ſaid ſea were not obliged to give convoy to thoſe ſhips, without an allowance in conſideration thereof.

So that upon the whole matter, here is nothing that relates to the dominion of the ſea, for the impoſition upon the ſhips and merchandizes was not *jure coronæ*, in right of the crown, for paſſing over the diſtricts or fiſhing within the royalty of it, but *ratione oneris*, in conſideration of a charge, which ſome perſons ſuſtained, and that by contract, to preſerve and defend the freedom and ſecurity of navigation and commerce. And it was very juſt and reaſonable, that what was undertaken for a common good and benefit, ſhould be ſupported and defrayed by a common charge and contribution. The roll does not ſay, that the impoſt was granted to the King, as an additional revenue to his crown; but it was for the guarders of the ſea, to reimburſe their expence, and recompenſe their ſervice. And the caſe is parallel with this: ſuppoſe the Hamburgers and other Hanſeatics trading to the Streights, who have very ſmall or no convoy of their own, and apprehenſive of the courſes of the rovers of Africa, the Turks and Moors, ſhould contract with the King of France, or others commiſſioned from him, to ſupply them with convoy from the mouth of the Streights, till they are arrived at the reſpective ports whither they are bound, and in conſideration thereof to give ſo much a ton upon every ſhip ſo convoyed. This would have no relation to any ſovereignty in the crown of France, in and over the Mediterranean ſea, but would be a particular contract only a *quid pro quo*, ſomething to be done, and ſomething to be received in conſideration of ſo doing.

There want not examples in hiſtory of thoſe, who have exacted tribute upon all paſſing certain ſeas, adjacent to their territories, and yet not as proprietary lords of thoſe ſeas neither, but only as

protectors and defenders of the navigation thereof. Thus the Romans imposed a tax upon all ships sailing in the Erythræan or Red Sea, towards the maintenance of a maritime force, for the repression of piratical excursions. And the Athenians did the same in the Hellespont. Thus the duties in the Sound, payable to the Kings of Denmark, began at first, not on account of any sovereignty over that sea, but because those Kings were at the charge of maintaining continual fires upon the Col and Annot, and floating tons or buoys upon the sands, as a direction to merchants in that dangerous entrance into the Baltic: for which, was anciently paid them at Cronenburg Castle, in the Sound, no more, till new exactions crept in, than a rose-noble for an empty ship, and if laden, a rose-noble more for her lading. Nor could any refuse payment, pretending, that he had an able pilot, and needed not the direction of the King's fires: for it is not reasonable, that the contumacy of one or more particular persons should frustrate or evacuate a public benefit.

In the seventh year of King James, in the year 1609, a proclamation was published of high importance, inhibiting all persons, of what nation or quality soever, not being natural-born subjects, from fishing upon any the coasts and seas of Great Britain and Ireland, and the isles adjacent, without first obtaining licences from the King, or his commissioners, authorised in that behalf; and those licences to be renewed yearly. This was the first that ever I could meet with of this nature: not that but particular fishermen of Dieppe, Calais, Bruges, &c. have sometimes, both before and since, taken licences here in England for their fishing: but then they did it, either as an abundant caution, or to gain an indefinite liberty for fishing every where, close upon the English shores, and within the friths, bays, and havens, without fear of molestation; and they did it *ex proprio motu*, without the privity and knowledge of their sovereigns; and paid nothing for it to the treasury of England, only gave fees and gratuities to the secretaries, and others, for dispatch of their licences. But here is a royal edict, or law, by way of premonition to all the neighbouring Princes and States, together with their subjects, to take licences of the King, or his commissioners, for fishing upon any coasts and seas of Great Britain; the number of their ships and vessels, together with their tonnage, to be specified, in order to a rateable composition to be paid yearly into the exchequer of England. And King Charles the First, in the twelfth year of his reign, in the year 1636, published another royal proclamation to the same tenor also. By which acts, those two Kings kept up the continual claim of the crown of England, to a sole and appropriate fishery in the British seas, and consequently to the sovereignty and dominion thereof; but neither of those public edicts obtained, from any of our neighbours, their due and just effect. Thus stands the case of the fishery.

And thus I have gone over all the chief branches of the sovereignty, and have faithfully related the matter of fact, and how the practice is, and has been, betwixt us and our neighbours, in reference to them all; not so fully indeed, and amply, as I might, but sufficiently to my purpose, who designed not a volume, but an abstract. There is still one thing behind, concerning the fishery, which I shall mention, and so conclude. It is by way of temperament or relaxation, and yet without renouncing any thing: it is a medium betwixt grasping at all and holding nothing; it is what would greatly accommodate England, if it can be obtained, or if a proper season presented for offering at it: I say, a season, or fit conjuncture. For what in natural philosophy, amongst chymists, is a just degree of heat, necessary to the production of all great and admirable effects, that in politics, amongst statesmen, is a fit conjuncture. The temperament or expedient, which I mean, is briefly thus: a limited fishing; not a licensed, but a limited one, without licence. This hath both a foundation of solid reason to support it, and is backed also with precedents and authorities, sufficient to vindicate it from the imputation of a new project. The reasonableness of it may be thus shewn. The sovereignty of any sea, and the right of the sole fishing in it, are so intimately connected, yea, so

ſo coeſſential one to the other, that he who controverts the one, will infallibly diſpute and opiniaſtre the other; but he who acknowledges one of them, will by a neceſſary conſequence yield both. And yet it is a thing undoubted, and never brought into queſtion by any; but that every Prince, whoſe country adjoins to the ſea, and whoſe ſhores are indented with bays, creeks, havens, and rivers, has ſome portion of the ſea belonging to him in property, as an acceſſion of the land, or appendant to it, or rather incorporated with it, like veins and arteries, integral parts of the ſame body.

King James, in the ſecond year of his reign, in the year 1604, cauſed a ſea chart to be publiſhed, deſcribing all the coaſts round England, by ſtrait lines, drawn from one promontory or foreland to another, and all that was intercepted and included within thoſe lines, was called the King's Chambers and Royal Ports. And in the proclamation publiſhed at the ſame time, and which refers to the ſaid ſea chart, they are called The Places of the King's Dominion and Juriſdiction; and all hoſtilities betwixt foreigners in war one with another, but in amity with England, forbidden within thoſe precincts. Our law alſo makes a conſiderable difference betwixt havens, rivers, creeks, and bays, and the *altum mare*, or high ſea; for the firſt are reckoned *intra corpus comitatus*, as the law phraſe is, parts and members of the counties of England; and all pleas of contract, and other things done there, are triable by verdict, and determinable at common law. But the court of Admiralty holds plea and conuſance of all things done upon the high ſeas, as being out of the body of any county, and conſequently from whence no jury can be returned for trial of iſſues.

If there be no certain ſtandard in nature, whereby to aſcertain the preciſe boundaries of that peculiar marine territory, I am now ſpeaking to, which belongs to every Prince in right of his land; yet, by treaty and agreement, they may eaſily be reduced to certainty. For, as to the judgment and opinion of private perſons, we cannot derive from thence any true meaſure; for though they all agree unanimouſly, that there is ſomething due of right, yet they vary in the *quantum*, or how much. Baldus reckons one hundred miles at ſea, as the diſtrict of the adjacent land. Bodin affirms it for a received law amongſt nations, that the Prince, whoſe country abuts upon the ſea, ſhould have ſixty miles juriſdiction from the ſhore, and that it was ſo adjudged in the caſe of the Duke of Savoy. Another Doctor will tell us, that ſo much of the ſea appertains to the land, as far as a man can ſee from ſhore in a fair day. But this will not ſerve our turn: for if a man may ſee from Dover to Calais, I ſuppoſe the like may be done from Calais to Dover, and whoſe ſhall the ſea be betwixt? Therefore the ſureſt way is, to preſcribe the limits of fiſhing betwixt neighbouring nations by contract, and not by the leſs certain meaſure of territory. For if no bounds be fixed, how many inconveniencies, and what a licentious extravagance, may ſuch a liberty run into? Why may not the Dutch, as formerly they have done, dredge for oyſters upon the coaſts of Eſſex, within the fiſheries of private perſons, and within ſtreams and waters appertaining to particular manors, by grants from the crown? Why may they not fiſh within the mouth of the Thames? Or within our creeks, havens, and rivers, as far as ſalt water flows? Or to the firſt bridge, if they will pleaſe to ſtop there? Is it reaſonable, that there ſhould be no diſtinction, as to fiſhing, between native and alien? Why then do they challenge to themſelves thoſe ſmaller ſeas and inlets within the Vly and Texel, and all other ſtreams, which, breaking in at a ſtrait neck or iſthmus of land, form peninſulas of waters, and, in the nature of ſtanding lakes, are incloſed within the banks of thoſe Low Countries? The States there farm out the fiſhing of the South-ſea or Zuyder, and other ſtreams, to their own people and ſubjects, under the reſervation of a yearly rent to be paid, and conſequently exclude all others from it. I hint theſe things, only to ſhew the reaſonableneſs of a limited fiſhing, and as to the authorities by which it is ſtrengthened, I ſhall touch upon them alſo.

It was anciently covenanted betwixt the crown of Scotland and the Netherlands, that they ſhould

 not

not fish within fourscore miles from the Scotish shores. My author is Welwood, a Scotch lawyer, in a little tract of his, which I have read, *De Dominio Maris*, in the third chapter: his words are, *Non possum praeterire, quod ante saeculum hoc post cruentissimam ex occasionibus maritimis discordiam inter Scotos Batavosque, res in hunc modum composita fuit, ut Batavi in posterum abstinerent ab Oris Scoticis ad octuaginta saltem milliaria.* Here the distance from the shores of Scotland, which foreigners were to observe in their fishing, is set very large, no less than fourscore miles.

In the second year of King James, commissioners were appointed and authorised, under the great seals of England and Scotland, to treat and conclude an union betwixt the two kingdoms. And in the articles for regulating trade betwixt them, it was, amongst other things, mutually agreed, that the fishing within the friths and bays of Scotland, and in the seas within fourteen miles distance from the coasts of that realm, where neither English nor other strangers have used to fish, should be reserved and appropriated to Scotchmen only. And so reciprocally on the part of England, Scotchmen to abstain from fishing within the like distances off the coasts of England. But if English and Scots, who, though the two kingdoms be *sui juris* and independent one upon another, are tied together in the same common bond of allegiance to one and the same Prince, be excluded from fishing within fourteen miles from each others coasts, how much more reasonable is it, that aliens and foreigners should be obliged to keep the same distances?

King James finding, that his before-mentioned proclamation, in the seventh year of his reign, for a licensed fishing, was not seconded by a suitable compliance on the part of the neighbouring nations, did about nine years after, by way of expedient, propose a limited fishing instead thereof. For thus I find it in a letter from Secretary Naunton to the Lord Carlton, English ambassador at the Hague, bearing date January the twenty-first, 1618. He acquaints him, how the King had, by him the said secretary, desired of the commissioners of the States, then residing at London, that they would write to their superiors, to publish a placart, prohibiting any of their subjects to fish within fourteen miles of his Majesty's coasts, that year or any time after, until order be taken by commissioners, authorised on both sides, for a final settling of the principal business. And the said ambassador was commanded to make the like instance and declaration to the States General, in the name of his master.

I am apt to believe, this distance of fourteen miles was the rather pitched upon, as the regulated measure, which had been agreed upon betwixt the commissioners of both kingdoms in the second year of the King, as I said before. But I have now done with the authorities, and for the better elucidation of what I have said, shall briefly sum it up into a fictitious article supposed to be made betwixt England and Holland.

" To maintain a due distinction betwixt natives and foreigners, in fishing upon the coasts of
" their respective sovereigns; and to prevent the manifold inconveniencies, which occasionally arise
" by a promiscuous and unlimited fishing; it is mutually covenanted, concluded, and agreed, that
" the people and subjects of the United Netherlands, shall henceforth abstain from fishing within
" any the rivers, friths, havens, or bays of Great Britain and Ireland, or within the distance
" of ——— leagues from any point of land thereof, or of any of the isles thereto belonging;
" under the penalty and forfeituor of all the fish, that shall be found aboard any vessel doing to the
" contrary, and of all the nets, utensils, and other instruments of fishing. The like distances, and
" under the same penalties, to be kept and observed by the subjects of his Majesty of Great Britain
" and Ireland, from any of the coasts belonging to the United Netherlands. But beyond those
" precincts and limits, that the people and subjects on both sides be at freedom to use and exercise
" fishing where they please, without asking or taking licences or safe conducts for so doing, and

" without

"without the let, hinderance, or molestation one of another. Saving always the ancient rights of "the crown of England, and that nothing herein contained be interpreted or extended to any di- "minution or impeachment thereof, but that they remain in the same force and virtue, as before "this agreement."

The article is penned indifferently on both sides, and so much the better, because the equality of it is an argument of its equity, yet I could instance in several benefits, which would redound to England from such an article, were it passed into an agreement; but they are not proper to be mentioned in this place; and therefore I shall here conclude with this brief apology, that what I have written, is for the justice and honour of the government, the conservation of the public peace, the maintenance of an inviolable amity with our allies, and is most humbly submitted to better informed judgments.

SECT. II.

Of the Importance and Dignity of Merchants.

HAVING, in the preceding work, sufficiently displayed the immense benefits of commerce to mankind, it remains, as it were by way of corollary, briefly to observe, that commerce, whether foreign or domestic, whether in gross or by retail, necessarily implies the principal and important instruments thereof, to be merchants. Doctor Godolphin might well have saved himself the trouble, in his preface to A View of the Admiralty Jurisdiction, of quoting Baldus, a famous Civilian, in saying, what surely every one will readily admit to be true, "That the world could not "live without merchants." The first and most obvious idea of a city, town, or village, is an assemblage of people of various conditions, seated together for their mutual convenience: which convenience is alone to be supplied by the instrumentality of merchants. A city or town therefore, or even barely, though in a lesser degree, a village, is a mere non-entity, exclusive of the aid of merchants: as a country without cities, towns, or villages, creates the idea of a wilderness.

In many free states in Europe, their sovereigns or governors are mostly either actual merchants themselves, or at least are descended from such, and enjoy the estates and dignities acquired by the commerce of their progenitors. Of this last-named class are likewise in England the following noble families, viz.

I. Coventry, Earl of Coventry, descended from Sir John Coventry, mercer, Lord Mayor of London, in the year 1425.

II. Brown, Viscount Montacute, descended from Sir Stephen Brown, grocer, and twice Lord Mayor of London, viz. in the years 1438 and 1448.

III. Legge, Earl of Dartmouth, descended from Thomas Legge, skinner, once Lord Mayor of London, who, according to Collins's Peerage, vol. iii. p. 100. married Elizabeth, daughter of Thomas Beauchamp, Earl of Warwick.

IV. Capel, Earl of Essex, descended from Sir William Capel, draper, and Lord Mayor of London, in the year 1503.

V. Dormer, Lord Dormer, descended from Ralph Dormer, mercer, and Lord Mayor of London, in the year 1529.

VI. Osborn, Duke of Leeds, descended from Sir Edward Osborn, cloth-worker, and Lord Mayor of London, in the year 1583.

VII. Cranfield-Sackville, Duke of Dorset, descended from Sir Lionel Cranfield, a merchant of London, who, for his great abilities, was preferred by King James I. to the high and most honourable office of his Lord High Treasurer, and was by that Prince also created Earl of Middlesex; and by his great grandson King George I. the present noble descendant was created Duke of Dorset.

The following peerages are become extinct very lately, viz.

VIII. Rich, Earl of Warwick and Holland, descended from Sir Richard Rich, mercer, and Lord Mayor of London, in the year 1441.

IX. Holles, Duke of Newcastle, descended from Sir William Holles, Lord Mayor of London, in the year 1539.——☞ The present noble Duke of that title, although he writes himself Holles-Pelham, as collaterally descended from the former, is lineally descended, as I have been told, from Sir John Pelham, Lord Treasurer to King Henry IV.

N. B. There were other peerages, now extinct, whose possessors were descended from merchants; as, De la Pole, Earl of Suffolk. Boleyn, Earl of Wiltshire. Hicks, Viscount Campden. Cromwell, Earl of Essex, &c. And lest any of the noble families above-named should question the truth of these genealogies, though far from being dishonourable, we shall, in our own vindication, acquaint them, that we have faithfully transcribed the accounts hereof from an octavo pamphlet in our possession, published so lately as the year 1750, entitled, "A Treatise on Trade, or the Antiquity and Honour of Commerce."

Many Peers there also are, and others lately were, who, though originally created or ennobled from their own eminence in the profession of the law, were, however, descended from merchants and eminent traders. Many other persons might be named, who, though not Peers, were, from merchants, advanced to the dignity of Privy Counsellors, and other high and honourable stations, by our Kings. Lastly, Were we yet further to extend our enquiries into all the inter-marriages of our nobility with the daughters of merchants and eminent traders, in consequence of which so many shattered estates have been effectually repaired, it would not only take up more room than was intended by this short essay; but might possibly also give offence where none is intended.

SECT. III.

Of the various Causes of the Rise and Increase of great and populous Cities.

ALTHOUGH it be true, as we have observed in the preceding section, that all cities wherever situated, and whatever their condition may be, principally and necessarily owe their origin and progressive support and increase to merchants and commerce: yet there is a very considerable difference between mere royal or princely cities, and cities advanced to greatness by commerce

merce and induſtry alone. The former ſort may be conſidered to be, in a great degree, peopled and ſupported by the reſidence of the ſovereign and nobility,—the national courts of juſtice,—guards and garriſons;—and by thoſe means having many plates of public entertainment and diverſion,—ſocieties for the advancement of polite and uſeful knowledge,—many great and elegant palaces, churches, convents, theatres, ſtatues, fountains, columns, pyramids, obeliſks, bridges, hoſpitals, infirmaries, ſchools, libraries, pictures; and, in fine, by every other object that can attract the admiration, feed the fancy, and delight the ſenſes of both the greater and ſmaller people, not only of their own nation, but of men of quality and wealth from other nations; although perhaps without foreign commerce, or much home manufactures. This was eminently the character of ancient Athens, Corinth, and Rome; as it is at preſent, more eminently than any where elſe, of modern Rome, Venice, Florence, Paris, &c.

Such are the qualifications which conſtitute a truly great and magnificent city: and whilſt their reſpective nations continue gradually to increaſe in proſperity and wealth, ſuch a capital city will be conſtantly increaſing in its people, as well as in its decorations and embelliſhments of every kind; as is at preſent ſo viſibly the happy caſe of the ſuperb metropolis of the Britannic empire, wherein many of the before-recited circumſtances, though we cannot ſay all, are conjoined to and with a matchleſs foreign commerce, ſalubrious air and water, an eaſy approach, and a ſufficient plenty of all other good things.

On the other hand, cities arrived at greatneſs, or rather magnitude, merely from their happy ſituation for, and great ſucceſs in commerce and manufactures, (more eſpecially if that riſe has been ſudden) the ornaments, decorations, and other polite embelliſhments of ſuch cities, even though arrived at a great degree of magnitude and population, will uſually be fewer and leſs conſiderable: ſuch places therefore will attract few people to viſit them, but merely on the ſcore of commerce. Such, for inſtance, may in ſome meaſure be ſaid to be the caſe of Peterſburg, the upſtart capital of Ruſſia, deſpotically or compulſively made ſo, on commercial as well as on political conſiderations, within the compaſs of the preſent century; though, in almoſt all other reſpects, moſt diſagreeably ſituated and circumſtanced. Such, we are ſorry to ſay it, is partly the caſe of ſome few of the moſt commercial and populous places in Great Britain, that have chiefly riſen up within the laſt three centuries, whoſe wealth and plenty are apparent in almoſt every countenance, but with little of any thing like embelliſhment and elegance for attracting of ſtrangers to viſit them, and from whence, ſuch as, through accident or neceſſity, have viſited them, we have often known to return with a coarſer character of them than they really deſerved, merely for want of that elegance they had expected in ſuch large, wealthy, and populous places: though from the preſent univerſal diſpoſition to improvements of every kind, the objection now made is continually leſſening. This conſideration properly conſtitutes the very juſt diſtinction which the judicious Botero has made (as we have partly obſerved under the year 1590) between a great city and a large city; a difference as great as there is between a plain and uneducated trader, and an accompliſhed and polite gentleman. Which cities nevertheleſs, though properly to be termed mere mercantile ones, do, in fact, obviouſly contribute much more to national proſperity, though not perhaps ſo much to national fame, than thoſe termed royal or princely cities.

Under the ſame year 1590, in our foregoing work, we gave alſo from Botero, who was an eminent Italian author of the ſixteenth century, a view of the magnitude, &c. of moſt of the capital and principal cities of Chriſtendom, all but thoſe within the Baltic Sea, which that able author ſeemed to think were then ſcarcely worth his regard. But we are ſorry to ſay, that we have not been ſufficiently

ficiently enabled, from modern travellers, to give ſo exact an account as we earneſtly deſired to have done, of the preſent or modern ſtate, in point of commerce and population, of many foreign cities: moſt of thoſe travellers contenting themſelves with tireſome and tedious accounts of their churches, monaſteries, paintings, and palaces, without giving us any thing conſiderable on what ought ever to be eſteemed a moſt eſſential part of ſuch deſcriptions, viz. the mercantile and political ſtate of thoſe cities, *i. e.* the number of their inhabitants—their principal ſtaple manufactures—and whether on the increaſe or on the declenſion; and, in general, the true light in which thoſe cities and countries ſtand in relation to other nations.

Since Botero wrote, about one hundred and ſeventy years ago, we may obſerve many vaſt alterations in the condition of nations, and particularly in their capital cities: thus Venice, then believed to conſiſt of near two hundred thouſand inhabitants, has for ſome time been in a retrogade ſtate; and the ſame of Genoa, and alſo of Prague, the capital of Bohemia, likewiſe in a declining ſtate; as is alſo Liſbon, ſince the Engliſh and Dutch have driven the Portugueſe out of their vaſt Eaſt Indian commerce: whereas, on the other hand, the cities of Milan and Naples have, ſince Botero's days, almoſt doubled the then number of their inhabitants; and London, which, at that time, contained little more than one third part of the then inhabitants of Paris, appears at this day to exceed that proud city, not only in riches, but even in the number of inhabitants. Moreover, the two capital cities of Denmark and Sweden are at this time become ſo conſiderable, not only in point of public edifices and ornaments, but alſo in the number of their inhabitants, as well to merit a place in ſuch enquiries.

Let us now, however, briefly examine the preſent magnitude of the two moſt famous cities of Europe, London and Paris, by what has hitherto been eſteemed the moſt juſt and equitable rule of determining the magnitude of cities, *i. e.* by their annual bills of mortality. And as many authors, who have gone before us on this ſubject, ſeem agreed, that in ſuch great and populous cities there die annually a thirtieth part, or one out of thirty, of their whole inhabitants, we will firſt try that rule, viz. firſt, on a medium of ſix ſucceeding years for the mortality of London.

I. In the year 1755,	buried at London,	21,917	perſons.
1756,	-	20,872	
1757,	-	21,313	
1758,	-	17,576	
1759,	-	19,604	
1760,	-	19,830	
	Total,	121,112	

Annual medium of ſix years, 20,185 dying yearly at London.
30 or the thirtieth part of the people.

Total inhabitants of London, 605,550 by this firſt computation.

But if multiplied by thirty-three, as others conjecture to be the number dying annually in London, or the thirty-third part of its inhabitants,

Then 20,185
Multiplied by 33 the ſecond rule.
Gives the total inhabitants of London, 666,105 by this ſecond computation.

II. There

II. There died in Paris in the six following years, as we had them casually, and at different times, from the Paris newspapers, viz.

In the year 1733,	- -	17,406
1750,	- -	18,084
1756,	- -	17,236
1757,	- -	17,237
1758,	- -	21,120
1759,	- -	18,446
Total of six years deaths,		109,529 at Paris.
Yearly medium of six years at Paris,		18,254
Multiplied by		30 the lowest rule.
Total inhabitants of Paris,		547,620 by the said lowest rule,
Fewer people at Paris than at London,		57,930 by this computation.
The total of people at London, as above,		605,550 by the first rule.
But if the medium of the yearly deaths at Paris		18,254
be multiplied by	— — —	33 the second rule,
Then the total inhabitants in Paris, by the second rule,		602,382
Fewer people in Paris than in London,	—	63,723
The total of people in London, as above,	—	666,105

As by reason of so many additional hospitals for the sick poor of London, within the last thirty years, the yearly mortality bill has sensibly decreased, whilst the town has most visibly been increasing, there are some who think that there dies not above one person in thirty-five yearly; they therefore reasonably conclude, that London's inhabitants may now amount to seven hundred and sixty thousand: whereas many of the deaths in Paris are of the aged religious of both sexes: yet, say they, on account of secret murders, &c. at Paris, may not Paris be concluded to contain seven hundred thousand souls; and this may probably be nearer the truth than either of the above computations.

I. These six years mortality bills of London are copied from the yearly bills published by the company of London Parish Clerks.

II. It is indeed still almost the general opinion, that the true annual mortality of London is by no means kept exact by the company of Parish Clerks, who are said to omit many deaths in families of different persuasions, dissenting from the established church.

III. But, without further insisting on what we are not properly able to prove, if our accounts of the annual deaths at Paris, which we took from the Paris Gazettes, be exact, it will follow, that, as there are many thousands of religious or ecclesiastical persons of both sexes in Paris, who are liable to mortality like other people, and doubtless are included in those annual accounts, there must needs be many more lay inhabitants in London than in Paris, and consequently a much smaller number of useless mouths and hands in the former than in the latter city. And thus we have, as impartially as we were able, discussed the national controversy (for such it has been called) concerning the

 magnitude

magnitude of thefe two illuftrious metropolifes, from real facts with regard to London, and, as we fuppofe, alfo in refpect to Paris: in both which cities, we fhall here but juft remark, that there are made the fineft and moft exquifite manufactures, of almoft all kinds, that can be named in the known world, and therefore needlefs, as well as almoft endlefs, to be enumerated; and with refpect to the vaftnefs of the naval commerce of London, enough has been already faid, in the body of our work, on that moft important fubject.

We have received, from a worthy and judicious Dutch merchant, an exact computation, not long fince made in Holland, which he fays was taken by public authority, of the number of inhabitants of the undernamed nineteen cities of the province of Holland, viz.

	Inhabitants.	
Amfterdam,	241,000	Of twenty thoufand fouls, and upwards.
Leyden,	70,000	
Rotterdam,	56,000	
Haarlem	50,000	
Hague,	38,000	
Delft,	25,000	
Tergow,	20,000	
Dort,	18,000	Under twenty thoufand inhabitants.
Alkmaar,	15,000	
Hoorn,	12,000	
Enkhuyfen,	11,000	
Gorcum,	6,600	
Schiedam,	8,000	
Brille,	5,000	
Edam,	4,000	
Purmerend,	2,600	
Modenblick,	2,500	
Schoonhoven,	2,500	
Monikendam,	2,000	
Total inhabitants of nineteen towns in the fingle province of Holland,	589,200	

Amfterdam, as we have feen, has had many and confiderably different computations of the number of its inhabitants, fome even as high as to three hundred thoufand: yet we are inclined to think, the above computation ftill comes the neareft to truth, though made thirty years ago; and the like may be probable of moft of the other cities and towns of that republic, and probably alfo of many of the cities and towns throughout the reft of Chriftendom. Neverthelefs, we may be frequently mifguided by fuperficial travellers, who, coming to lye a night or two, or even longer, at a populous place, where feeing many public edifices and ftreets, they two often pronounce at random on this fubject, or elfe often take the report of others, who, though inhabitants of the place, may be very incompetent judges of fuch matters. How widely different, for inftance, do many of the natives of London fpeak of the magnitude of the place in which they have fpent their whole lives, for want of due attention, judgment, and obfervation? How vaftly different, for inftance, are the accounts of different travellers concerning the magnitude of the famous city of Nurenberg, in Germany, as will be feen further in this fupplement?

THE

POLITICO-COMMERCIAL

GEOGRAPHY OF EUROPE:

OR,

COMPENDIOUS AND COMPARATIVE VIEW

OF THE VARIOUS

Productions, Trades, Manufactures, Exportations, Population, and Power,

OF THE SEVERAL

POTENTATES, REPUBLICKS, AND STATES THEREOF:

AND LIKEWISE OF THE

COMMERCE, MAGNITUDE, AND PEOPLE, OF THEIR MOST CONSIDERABLE CITIES AND TOWNS.

Extracted from the beſt modern Accounts thereof, and more particularly from the Engliſh Tranſlation in the Year 1762, *in ſix Quarto Volumes, of the* NEW GEOGRAPHY OF EUROPE, *juſt publiſhed, in High Dutch, by* DOCTOR BUSCHING, *Profeſſor of Philoſophy in the Univerſity of Gottingen.*

WITH a more eſpecial regard to the preſent commercial condition, magnitude, and importance of the moſt conſiderable cities and towns of Europe, it may be needful to premiſe,

I. That beſide the fine and judicious diſtinction of Botero, betwixt a *large* city and a *great* city, mentioned in the body of our work under the year 1590, another diſtinction may be equally eſſential, viz. between a great many ſeemingly large cities in Popiſh countries, which nevertheleſs are very thinly inhabited by trading and induſtrious people; and very many Proteſtant cities and towns, which, though ſtanding on much leſs ground, are nevertheleſs crouded with many more traders, manufacturers, and other induſtrious inhabitants. Thus, in Poland, Germany, Italy, France, Spain, and Portugal, many of their larger cities are conſtituted or conſiſt, for the moſt part, with eccleſiaſtical edifices, as cathedral, collegiate, and pariſh churches, large abbeys, convents, nunneries, chapels, chantries, epiſcopal and deanry palaces, and prebendal houſes, with all their extenſive gardens, and other outlets: although, beſide the habitations of their more immediate and numerous dependants, there may be very little to be found therein of any thing like manufactures and commerce.

Such, for inſtance, is the city of Munſter, in Germany, the city of Bourges in France, and many others which might be named. Even in Proteſtant countries, and particularly in our own nation, no adequate judgment can be formed, as elſewhere obſerved of the population, or real magnitude of many places, merely from either their greater or their leſſer number of pariſh churches and chapels: of which, York city, Oxford, Cambridge, &c. on the one hand, and the extenſive liberty of Weſtminſter, Briſtol, Liverpool, Mancheſter, Newcaſtle upon Tyne, Birmingham, Glaſgow, &c. on the other hand, are obvious inſtances.

II. It may alſo be herein further proper to be obſerved, that when, under the deſcription of any particular city or town, no mention ſhall happen to be made of the peculiar trade or manufacture of ſuch place, the reader is naturally to be referred to the account, previouſly exhibited, of the general trade, productions, and manufactures of the country or province under which ſuch town or city is ranked.

RUSSIA.

With reſpect to the commerce of Ruſſia, in general it is allowed to be very advantagous to her; many in our days being of opinion, that her annual exports from St. Peterſburg, amount to four millions of rubles, and that her imports exceed not three million, whereby ſhe gains annually one million of rubles, or two hundred and twenty-five thouſand pounds ſterling, (valuing a ruble at four ſhillings and ſix pence ſterling)—but this is little more than a random conjecture; there being others, who think, that Ruſſia gains conſiderably more on the general annual balance of her commerce; and, that Great Britain is the moſt conſiderable loſer of any nation of Europe, in her trade to Ruſſia.

Ruſſia's productions and exports, in general, are many, and very valuable, viz. furs and peltry of various kinds, red leather, linen, and thread, iron, copper, ſail-cloth, hemp, and flax, pitch and tar, wax, honey, tallow, iſinglaſs, linſeed oil, pot-aſh, ſoap, feathers, train oil, hog's briſtles, muſk, rhubarb and other drugs, timber, and alſo raw ſilk from China and Perſia.

Her foreign commerce with the reſt of Europe is much increaſed ſince her conqueſts from Sweden of Livonia, and eſpecially Ingria, and ſince the eſtabliſhing of her new emporium of Peterſburg, whereby her naval intercourſe with the reſt of Europe is made much more ſhort and eaſy.

Ruſſia carries on a commerce over land, by caravans, to China, chiefly with furs: and they bring back from thence tea, ſilks, cotton, gold, &c.—To Bochara, near the river Oxus, Ruſſia ſends her own merchandize in return for Indian ſilks, curled lamb ſkins, and ready money; and alſo from the annual fair at Samarcand.—She trades to Perſia, by Aſtracan, croſs the Caſpian Sea, for raw and wrought ſilk.

Before her late conqueſts from Sweden, her only port of naval communication with Europe, was Archangel in the White Sea; it is a long and tempeſtuous voyage from moſt parts of Europe. That famous port town is about three Engliſh miles in length, and one in breadth, altogether built of wood, excepting her merchants-exchange, which is a ſtone building. The gradual increaſe of Peterſburg has in ſome meaſure, decreaſed the trade of Archangel, which, however, ſtill exports a great quantity of the before-named merchandize.

In Ruſſian Lapland, there is a ſmall and inconſiderable port, named Kola, in the north latitude of about ſixty-nine degrees, on a bay of the Northern Ocean, ſince the year 1554 frequented annually by ſome few Dutch ſhipping; who bring from thence only ſome peltry, and ſalted and dried

salmon; but this being in so barbarous a country, has little connection with the general commerce of Russia.

Moscow, a far inland place, mostly built of timber, excepting the palaces, churches, convents, and the great fortress of Cremlin, is by some still thought to be the largest city of Europe, and particularly said to be so by Dr. Busching, who adds, that it has one thousand six hundred churches and convents, and forty-three public places and squares: that its inhabitants consist of statesmen, nobility, and their retinues; of merchants, soldiers, priests, monks, nuns, and their servants; mechanics, carriers, sledge-drivers, labourers, &c. But that, since the building and increase of Petersburg, Moscow is greatly declined, and therefore is now by him supposed to be reduced to about one hundred and fifty thousand people; yet others think it has many more. Busching makes the merchants-exchange to contain about six thousand fine shops. Here is the scene of trade, vast numbers of merchants and traders, and particularly those to China.—Moscow's modern condition is indeed hard justly to describe, few voyagers giving themselves the trouble of visiting it. The grandeur of its many palaces, cathedrals, convents, &c. and the meanness of the bulk of the houses, carrying much seeming inconsistency, even by Busching's and other modern accounts; yet, upon the whole, there are probably many more inhabitants in it than the last-named, otherwise able author, inconsistently makes it contain, after telling us, that it is the largest city in Europe. In the year 1755, it had an university erected in it. Here is a silk manufactory, vast artillery magazines, hospitals, squares, and mercantile storehouses, &c. Within the circle of Moscow stand abundance of towns.——The following considerable places are in Russia, viz. Tula, a trading city on the river Upa, and contains one hundred and forty-four churches and convents. Here are great quantities of fire-arms and Russia leather made.—Lower Novogrod lies on the Volga: its shops are richly furnished with all sorts of foreign and native merchandize.—Rezan, formerly a celebrated place, is much decayed, from having been destroyed by the Tartars about two hundred years ago.—Smolensko, a large town on the Dnieper, has considerable commerce, both by land and river carriage.—Kiow, the capital of the Don-Cassocks, stands likewise on the Dnieper, and is a large irregular city filled with churches, convents, shops, and tradesmen's houses.—Woronitz, standing on a river running into the river Don, is a large and populous place. It is here that Peter the Great first made a large dock-yard for ship-building, in order to obtain a naval sovereignty on the Euxine or Black Sea: but, although he failed therein, and was afterwards obliged to yield up to the Turks, Azof, or Azow, near the mouth of the great river Don, and also Taganrok, on the Palus Mæotis, whereby he was precluded from the Black Sea; yet Woronitz, or Veronitz, is said to be still a place of considerable trade, by means of the said river Don.—Novogrodweliki, or Great Novogrod, is an ancient, large, and celebrated city on the navigable river Wolcow, just where it runs out of the Ilmen Lake, and afterwards disembogues into the Finland Gulph; it was a most eminent staple and emporium of the Hans-Towns, till the year 1390, as related in our work under that year, but is now much decayed. Yet it is said the best red Russia leather is still manufactured here.—Plescow, on the river Welika, is said to be a place of considerable trade.—Twer, a large town on both sides of the river Volga, has seventy churches and convents, and carries on a considerable trade in corn.

☞ There are vast desarts in Russia, especially in its northern and north-eastern provinces; and in many parts of it the people are still Pagans. Not one-third of the country is sufficiently peopled, nor cultivated: so that, if there be nine or ten millions of people in all the more ancient empire of Russia, as it stood before the conquests made in the former part of this eighteenth century, it is probably as much as can be reasonably computed.

Ruſſia's moſt important conqueſts from Sweden by Peter the Great, are, firſt, the fine and well cultivated country of Livonia, containing many good towns, villages, and farms: but as the commercial part of Geography is ſolely our preſent province, we ſhall confine our enquiries to ſuch places as are more immediately connected therewith.

Livonia, or Liefland, (including Lettenland and Eſthonia) affords all the neceſſaries of life in great plenty, being moſtly a fertile ſoil; and in a plentiful year exports many thouſand laſts of rye and barley to Holland, Spain, and other parts, and is therefore ſtiled the granary of the north; though Poland ſurely with more reaſon and eminence merits that character. It has great plenty of horned cattle and horſes, but the wool of their ſheep is ſaid to be ſo coarſe as to reſemble goats-hair. From hence immenſe quantities of flax, excellent hemp, uſually called Riga rine hemp, linſeed, leather, and ſkins are exported, by ſhips from Britain, Holland, France, and other parts. Yet, from the many cruel wars, and the devaſtation of ſo many of their towns and villages, it is thinner of people than from ſo large and fine a province would otherwiſe be expected.

Riga, is ſituated on the river Duna, or Dwina, near the Baltic Sea, and has long been famed for commerce and opulence, having handſome houſes of ſtone; and by means of an excellent harbour, carries on a great trade of exportation of hemp, flax, ſhip and houſe timber, naval ſtores, iron, cordage, corn, furs, &c. to the above-named countries, ſome think, in ſummer, by about five hundred ſhips, and to and from Ruſſia by ſledges in winter. It is well fortified, contains ſix Lutheran churches, and is a reaſonably large city; though we have not met with any computation of the exact number of its inhabitants.

Revel is a ſtrong and opulent city on the Baltic ſhore, a place of conſiderable commerce, much after the manner of Riga. It is the capital of that part of Livonia called Eſthonia Here a part of the Ruſſian fleet is uſually ſtationed.

Narva ſtands on a river of the ſame name, diſemboguing into the gulph of Finland, and, though not large, it carries on a naval and land commerce of the like kind with Riga.

Secondly, The conqueſt of Ingria, or Ingermanland, adjoining to Livonia, or the government of Peterſburg, though not ſo good a country as Livonia, contains the following places, viz.

Cronſtadt, built by the Czar Peter the Great, on a ſmall iſland, eight leagues by water from Peterſburg. Its people conſiſt of about twenty thouſand, of burghers, ſailors, and ſoldiers. It is the principal ſtation for the moſt part of the Ruſſian navy, and is therefore made very ſtrong.

Peterſburg, in latitude fifty-nine degrees, fifty-ſeven minutes, the uſual reſidence of the Ruſſian court, ſtate-offices, &c.—Till the year 1703, there were only two ſmall fiſhing huts on the wateriſh and ſwampy ſpot where this great city now ſtands, on both ſides the river Neva, and conſequently in both provinces of Ingria and Carelia, between the bottom of the Finland Gulph and the Lake Ladoga; part of this city is alſo built on ſeveral ſmall iſlands formed by the branches of the river Neva, ſo as to appear like ſeveral diſtinct towns rather than one ſingle city De Dieu, the Dutch reſident, wrote to his maſters concerning the magnitude of this city, in the year 1721, which he then probably exaggerated. Mr. Salmon's Modern Gazetteer ſays, there were no leſs than ſixty thouſand houſes built within three or four years after the foundation was laid, if he has not, through miſtake, added a cypher too much. Dr. Buſching's contains about eight thouſand houſes; of which number about ſix hundred are of ſtone, and the reſt are of timber; and it may contain above one hundred thouſand people. It has neither gates nor walls; only in the middle of the city there is a ſtrong and beautiful fort. The admiralty and dock-yards are alſo fortified.

Its extenſive commerce, reſpecting all the before-named commodities of Ruſſia, renders it of great importance; a vaſt number of foreign ſhipping frequenting it in ſummer, as a mart for all Ruſ-

ſian

ſian merchandize; and in winter three thouſand ſledges, each drawn by one horſe, are employed for paſſengers in its ſtreets. There are about twenty Ruſſian churches, four Lutheran churches for the Germans, and ſeveral Calviniſt ones for the French and other Proteſtants, and ſome alſo for Roman Catholics. It has an univerſity, ſeveral academies, hoſpitals, convents, &c.

Thirdly, In Carelia, alſo conquered by the great Peter, ſtands the town of Wiburg, its capital, formerly deemed the bulwark of Sweden on the ſide of Ruſſia. It is ſituated on the Gulph of Finland, and carries on a conſiderable foreign trade in tar, and ſundry ſorts of timber, &c.

Weſt of Livonia lies the Duchy of Courland, which, with Samogitia and Semigallia, properly, is ſubject to its own Dukes; though too much under the influence of Poland, or elſe of Ruſſia, but the latter more eſpecially of late years. Its commodities are much the ſame as thoſe of Livonia.—Mittau, the capital, and the uſual reſidence of its Prince, on the river Aa, is a pretty extenſive town, of about twelve thouſand inhabitants; having two Lutheran churches, one Calviniſt church, and a Popiſh one, and affords much the ſame merchandize as Livonia for exportation.—Libau, a city and port of good trade on the Baltic ſhore, having one Lutheran and one Popiſh church, and two ſchools. It conſiſts entirely of wooden houſes. Dr. Buſching thinks that annually above one hundred and fifty ſhips uſually arrive at Libau, to load pot-aſh, goat-ſkins, timber, hemp, flax, and other naval ſtores, linſeed, and other bulky merchandize.

BRANDENBURGH PRUSSIA.

Weſt of Courland lies Brandenburgh Pruſſia, or the kingdom of Pruſſia. Its principal commodities for commerce are, corn and buck-wheat, in great quantities, hemp and flax, pitch, pot-aſh, wax, honey, ſturgeon, hops, pit-coal, amber, ſeeds of flax and hemp, caviare, tallow, hogs-briſtles, and timber of many kinds. The inhabitants of this kingdom were, by Dr. Buſching, computed to amount to ſix hundred and thirty-five thouſand nine hundred and ninety-eight perſons capable of bearing arms: and if ſo, it muſt then be more populous than is generally imagined.—Since the year 1719, it is computed that about thirty-four thouſand coloniſts have removed thitherward from France, Switzerland, and Germany, of which number ſeventeen thouſand were Saltzburgers.—Theſe emigrants have built four hundred ſmall villages, eleven towns, eighty-ſix ſeats, and fifty new churches, and have founded one thouſand village ſchools, chiefly in that part of the country named Little Lithuania. That their manufactures are continually increaſing, viz. glaſs, iron-works, paper, gunpowder, copper and braſs mills; manufactures of cloth, camblet, linen, ſilk, ſtockings, &c. That the King of Pruſſia has conſtituted a board of commerce and navigation, having the cognizance of all caſes relative to trade and commerce.

Koningſberg, its capital city, is ſituated on the river Pregel, a large and beautiful city, ſeven miles in circumference, containing about three thouſand eight hundred houſes, and ſixty thouſand people: by which computation of Dr. Buſching, there muſt be very near ſixteen perſons, on an average, in every houſe. Koningſberg has ever made a conſiderable figure in commerce and ſhipping, its river being navigable for ſhips, of which four hundred and ninety-three foreign ones arrived here in the year 1752, beſides two hundred and ninety-eight coaſters; and that three hundred and ſeventy-three floats of timber were in the compaſs of that year brought down the Pregel, of which ſee more in the body of this work, under the year 1749.

Pillau, near Koningſberg, is a ſtrong city, and has a fine harbour, famous for the beſt ſturgeon, from the roe of which caviare is made. Veſſels of the greateſt burthen are here cleared and take in

their

their ladings, which have not water enough in the Frischaf to carry them up to Koningsberg. In the year 1720, King Frederick William induced twenty thousand Protestant Switzers, French, Palatines, and Franconians, to settle in Prussia, at the expence, says Dr. Busching, of five millions of rixdollars: and in the year 1732, three hundred and fifty thousand dollars were further distributed to a fresh colony of twelve thousand five hundred Saltzburgers; by which, and similar wise and salutary measures, Prussia has been well peopled and cultivated, so as in length of time to have made ample returns to his Majesty for the said expence.

Memel is a well fortified trading sea-port, of above four hundred houses; to which, in the year 1752, seventy ships arrived, and sixty-nine sailed to foreign parts; whither they carried, and still annually carry great quantities of flax, hemp, linen, thread, and linseed.

Tilsit, an inland town, is, next to Koningsberg, the largest and most opulent of this kingdom, carrying on to Koningsberg the greatest trade in those commodities; having about six hundred houses and seven thousand inhabitants, says Dr. Busching, being near twelve persons to each house. And Insterburg, on the Pregel, contains three hundred and fifty houses, and three thousand inhabitants, having a granary and salt-factory.

POLAND, LITHUANIA, and POLISH PRUSSIA.

The soil of these three countries, says Dr. Busching, and many others, is so exceeding fertile, and yields such plenty of grain, that near four thousand vessels and floats, mostly laden with corn, come annually down the Vistula to Dantzick, from Podolia, Volhinia, the Ukraine, and from other parts of Great and Little Poland. So that their harvests make ample amends for the superior labour which agriculture requires.

Poland, properly speaking, has not any manufactures of her own; all her merchandize being exported raw or unwrought, to her great shame. Ecclesiastical bigotry, as will ever be the case every where, is of infinite detriment to her commerce. And, maugre all her natural advantages, she is constantly sinking deeper into poverty. Poland, however, exports grain of all kinds, flax, hemp, linseed, hops, honey, wax, tallow, hides, leather dressed after the Russian manner, pitch, pot-ash, masts, ship and house timber, horned cattle, horses, &c. All which, nevertheless, are greatly overbalanced by her imports. Poland is said to have two million of Jews in her villages alone, exclusive of their great numbers in cities and towns, who carry on the bulk of her commerce; whilst her clergy are possessed of two-thirds of her lands and revenues.

1. Warsaw, on the river Vistula, lying almost in the centre of Poland, is the royal residence.—It has several elegant stone buildings and palaces, many fine churches and convents, but little of any thing like commerce.

2. Cracow, its capital, is the largest and best built city in Poland, stands also on the Vistula, with an university. Yet, although it has rich salt-mines in its vicinity, its commerce is very inconsiderable; and, as Morery and Collier justly remark, it is, from various causes, a declining city. It is said to have no fewer than fifty churches and convents.

3. Lemberg is a large city, the capital of Red Russia: but whence the opulence which some authors pretend it to be possessed of proceeds, we shall not undertake to find out.

4. Kaminiec, the capital of Podolia, the best frontier fortification of Poland, on the side of Turkey; but, possibly for that reason, it cannot thrive in commerce.

1. Of Lithuania, Wilna is the capital city. It is very large, but has often been destroyed by fire; yet its inhabitants have some considerable inland trade on its navigable river of the same name, running

ning into the Baltic Sea, whereby they fend their merchandize as far as Koningfberg. Yet its trade is faid to be moftly managed by foreigners, its natives being poor and lazy. Its private houfes are generally of timber, but its public ones are of ftone or brick, fuch as its churches and convents, both of the Roman and Greek communion, and alfo thofe of the nobility.

2. Grodno is alfo a large place, and the next beft to Wilna, and has alfo a good inland trade.

3. 4. Mohilow is a handfome trading town, on the river Nieper; as is alfo Witepfk, a fortified inland trading town, on the Duna.

The famous city of Dantzic is the capital of that part of Polifh Pruffia named Pomerania, and alfo of the whole province; fituated on the river Viftula, about four Englifh miles before it falls into the Baltic Sea. It is ftill a moft eminent commercial city, although it feems to be fomewhat paft its meridian glory, which was probably about the time that the Prefident De Thou wrote his much efteemed Hiftoria fui Temporis; wherein, under the year 1607, he fo highly celebrates its commerce and grandeur. It is a republic, with a fmall adjacent territory about forty miles round it, under the protection of the King and Republic of Poland. Its magiftracy and the majority of its inhabitants are Lutherans, although the Romanifts and Calvinifts be equally tolerated in it. It is large, rich, beautiful, and populous, having twenty-fix parifhes, with many convents, hofpitals, &c. The older authors make her inhabitants amount to two hundred thoufand in number; but later computations fall very confiderably fhort of it, as appears by its annual bill of mortality exhibited by Doctor Bufching, who tells us, that in the year 1752 there died there but one thoufand eight hundred and forty-fix perfons. Its own fhipping is numerous, but the foreign fhips conftantly reforting to it are more fo, whereof one thoufand and fourteen arrived there in the faid year 1752: in which year alfo one thoufand two hundred and eighty-eight Polifh veffels came down the Viftula, chiefly laden with corn, for its matchlefs granaries; from whence that grain is diftributed to many foreign nations, Poland being juftly deemed the greateft magazine of corn in all Europe, and Dantzic the greateft port for diftributing it every where: befide which, Dantzic exports great quantities of naval ftores, as oak plank, deal, pitch and tar, mafts, cordage, hemp and flax; alfo tallow, hides, furs, honey, wax, fturgeon, amber, hops, iron, copper, lead, glafs, earthen ware, faltpetre, pot afh, linen, fine diftilled ftrong waters, falt, opium, vitriol, vermilion, beer, &c. Dr. Bufching affirms, that it appears from ancient records, as early as the year 997, "That Dant-" zic was a large commercial city, and not a village or inconfiderable town, as fome pretend." Vide its foundation, as exhibited in the body of our work, under the year 1169.

Thorn, higher up on the Viftula, is deemed the moft ancient town of either of the Pruffias, and, next to Dantzic, is the faireft and largeft one of Polifh Pruffia. By means of Thorn all the merchandize of Poland is conveyed down the Viftula to Dantzic. The bulk of its inhabitants are Lutherans, who have feveral churches, and alfo the magiftracy and univerfity. The Romanifts have alfo fome churches, convents, and a Jefuits college. Yet Thorn is confiderably decayed in point of commerce, compared to what it was in elder times.

Elbing is the next beft town in Polifh Pruffia, ftanding on a river of the fame name, running into a bay of the Baltic, called the Frifch-haf. It is a large and ftrong place, of confiderable trade, having nine Lutheran churches, one large Popifh one, a Calvinift and Mennonite place of worfhip. Its trade is much in the manner of thofe of Brandenburg Pruffia, viz. naval ftores, hemp, flax, timber, pot afh, &c.

☞ Thefe three cities laft mentioned are called the three great towns of Polifh Pruffia; and, not longer enduring the tyranny of the Teutonic Knights, they, in the year 1454, revolted from them, and put themfelves under the immediate protection of Poland, and fo they remain to the prefent time;

time; and for that reason they enjoy greater privileges than any other towns whatever, both in respect to freedom and commerce; and indeed are all that, in a commercial sense, are of any great importance to Polish Prussia.

SWEDEN.

Sweden, although in general it be very mountainous and rocky, affords nevertheless, many tracts of level lands proper for agriculture. Of all its provinces Gothland produces the most grain, viz. wheat, rye, barley, oats, peas and beans. Sweden also, according to Dr. Busching, has chrystals, amethysts, topases, porphyry, lapis lazuli, agate, cornelian, marble, and other fossils. But the bulk of Sweden's wealth proceeds from her mines of silver, copper, lead and iron; of this last-named metal there are reckoned four hundred and fifty forges, hammering-mills and smelting-houses. That author tells us, they have a kind of a gold mine, which, from the year 1741 to 1747, produced two thousand three hundred and ninety-eight gold ducats, each worth nine shillings and fourpence sterling; a poor produce truly! He thinks, that the produce of her iron mines constitutes two-thirds of the national revenue. Some have reckoned the whole number of people to be three millions; but others, not above two millions. A small number this, for so vast an extent of country! Some of its parishes are as extensive as the entire province of Holland, though scarcely containing seventy farms, with perhaps not so many wretched cottages as there are towns in that opulent province! The bulk of the Swedish commonalty subsist by agriculture, mining, grazing, hunting, and fishing. Their materials for traffic are the bulky and useful commodities of masts, beams, deal-boards, and other sorts of timber for shipping; tar, pitch, bark of trees, pot-ash, wooden utensils, hides, flax, hemp, peltry, furs, copper, lead, iron, cordage, and fish.

A few centuries backward Sweden had no manufactures; and in those times the Hans-towns exported from Sweden the very crude ore of their copper and iron, which they refined, and manufactured into various utensils and tools, which they sold again to the Swedes. The inhabitants of their coasts were all fishermen; and their towns had no artificers. In the reign of their King Gustavus the First, surnamed Vasa, who reigned from the year 1523 to 1559, the Swedes first began to work their metals and wood at home; and about the middle of the seventeenth century they began to set up sundry kinds of manufactures, by the help of Hollanders and Flemings, viz. glass, starch, tin, woollen, silk, soap, leather dressing, and saw mills. They had no booksellers till the year 1647. They have since had sugar baking, tobacco plantations, and manufactures of sail-cloth, cotton, fustian, and other stuffs; of linen, alum, brimstone, paper mills and gunpowder mills; vast quantities of copper, brass, steel, and iron, are now wrought in Sweden. They have also founderies for cannon, forgeries for fire arms and anchors, armories, wire and flatting mills: mills also for fulling, and for boring, stamping, &c. Of late also they build many ships.

They have certain towns which are allowed to import and export merchandize in their own ships; and these are termed staple towns, being twenty-four in number: but the other towns, which, though near or even upon the sea coast, have no foreign commerce, and are therefore called land towns. Others are termed mine towns, as belonging to some mine district.

By a report from their Board of Trade to the diet of the kingdom, in the year 1752, it appears, that their commerce had been considerably increased of late years, and that their manufactures were also considerably improved, to the further employing of their people, and lessening the importation of foreign merchandize; most part of which is, moreover, imported in Swedish shipping, which also are the chief exporters of the home products and manufactures. Yet, upon the whole, Dr. Busching

Busching thinks, that the Swedish imports do still in value exceed their exports; chiefly occasioned by the very necessary importation of corn and other provisions, which might be much lessened, if the Swedes would more assiduously apply to the increase of agriculture and the fishery.

The chief staple towns of Sweden are Stockholm and Gottenburg. We shall treat of them as they lie, from the west to the eastward.

I. Gottenburg is a fortified modern built town, the usual station of their East India shipping; and is the principal and most opulent place in Sweden next after Stockholm. It contains about thirteen thousand inhabitants, is neatly built, and has several quays and docks, and a college of admiralty, and has also a squadron of the royal navy usually stationed there. It is well frequented by merchant ships, so much the more as it lies without the Sound, and is therefore free from that toll.

II. Carlescroon, built on a little isle on the Baltic, joined to the continent by a long bridge. It is a strong town, has a good harbour, and is therefore the usual station of most of the navy royal. It consists of five thousand inhabitants, which, as towns generally go in Sweden, is deemed a very considerable and important place, has a royal dock yard, royal store houses, &c.

III. Stockholm, in north latitude fifty-nine degrees, twenty minutes; the capital of the kingdom, stands partly on islands and partly on peninsulas. It is the residence of the court, of the college of commerce, of the national bank, the fund whereof, according to Dr. Busching, consists of about six millions of silver dollars, of each one shilling and six-pence andtwo-thirds sterling, in all four hundred and sixty-six thousand six hundred and sixty-six pounds thirteen shillings and four-pence sterling, if he was rightly informed, beside current bills, to the amount of seventy millions. Which bank has been of great utility to the crown and kingdom, by advancing considerable sums for the service of the public. Here is an insurance-office, and a Levant Company. It contains twenty parish churches, in what is called the city alone, and above five thousand houses, most of which stand on piles, though entirely built with stone, and are generally four or five stories high, some of which are covered with iron or else with copper plates, as others are with tiles. Beside these, there are a great number of timber houses in the suburbs. And the number of inhabitants who pay taxes is computed to amount to sixty thousand. The Danes themselves acknowledge this city to be something larger than their own capital of Copenhagen, so that Stockholm may be reasonably supposed to contain one hundred thousand people. Here indeed is carried on the most part of the trade of the kingdom, which well accounts for its magnitude. Here also are its navy and admiralty offices, the royal arsenal and dock yards; also a royal academy of sciences, one for military architecture, and one for painting and sculpture,—a college of physicians,—an insurance office from fire,—and a custom-house. Her foreign and domestic commerce is very considerable: here is an excellent harbour, where the largest ships may lie close to the houses; yet, by reason of certain rocks, its entrance is somewhat difficult, though the society of pilots supplies that inconveniency. Here are sugar houses, glass houses, manufactures of porcelain, woollen, silk, cotton, canvas, parchment. In her docks are many ships constantly built. The principal exports from hence are, copper and iron in great abundance, steel, brass latten wire, iron and brass cannon, masts, planks of oak and deal, hemp, tallow, honey and wax, hides and furs.

IV. Upsal is a very ancient and considerable large city, with an university. It was anciently the principal residence of the sovereigns of Sweden. All its buildings, however, are of wood, the cathedral and a few stone houses excepted. It has three churches: which is all we can say about it, as it is no maritime place.

 V. Gefle,

V. Gefle, a fea port, on the weft fide of the gulph of Bothnia, is a populous town, and carries on a very advantageous trade, with many fhips. It has a dock for fhipping, a cuftom-houfe, an arfenal or magazine, a gymnafium, or feminary for youth, a caftle, and an hofpital. Yet Dr. Bufching thinks, that two-thirds of its people are fifhermen; but the moft principal are traders and manufacturers, he does not, however, tell us what they deal in; though probably it is in timber, metals, hemp, and peltry.

Abo is a fea port, the capital of the great dutchy of Finland, feated at the point of the angle formed by the gulphs of Bothnia and Finland, and the moft confiderable place in that dutchy. It has a caftle and a commodious harbour, and carries on a brifk trade in linen, corn, provifions, and timber.

Of the long-fince united Kingdoms of DENMARK and NORWAY.

Although in the laft century there were fcarce any manufactures carried on in Denmark, (which were originally introduced, fays Bufching, fo late as King Frederic IV. who died in the year 1730, and by his fon King Chriftian VI. who died in the year 1746,) yet there are now artifts of extraordinary fkill at Copenhagen; and at prefent every branch of the mechanical arts is well executed in Denmark. Gold and filver lace, filk ftuffs and velvets, woollen cloths and ftuffs, ftockings, tapeftry, hats, baftard and genuine Porcelain, fire arms, paper and copper mills, iron wares, one filk and two cotton printing houfes; with manufactures alfo of foap, fteel, ftarch, glue, lacker, fugar, tobacco, &c. The lace of Jondern, and the gloves of Randern and Odenfee, are known to be excellent in their kinds. No foreign manufactures are allowed to be imported into Denmark; and fince the year 1736, the wearing of jewels, gold and filver ftuffs, and foreign lace, have alfo been prohibited. In the year 1738, a general warehoufe was opened at the exchange in Copenhagen, to which manufacturers bring all the wares which they cannot difpofe of in other towns, and are paid ready money for them. And from this warehoufe the goods are delivered out on credit to retailers. King Frederic IV. who began his reign in the year 1699, may be deemed the real founder of the Danifh commerce; the ftrict application to which partly appears by the great number of their fhips annually paffing the Sound; thofe of the year 1752, amounting to eight hundred and fifty fail, and partly, alfo, from the feveral opulent companies which have from time to time been eftablifhed at Copenhagen. The principal of thefe is the Royal Afiatic Company, firft erected in the year 1716, which trades to Tranquebar, on the coaft of Coromandel, and alfo to China. Here our author, Dr. Bufching, was probably ignorant, that the Danes have been fettled in the faid fort of Tranquebar ever fince the year 1617, as in the body of our work under that year.

In the year 1747, there was a general trading company erected by charter, for trading to Spain, France, the Mediterranean, the Baltic, and alfo to Greenland for whale fifhing. The incorporated Iceland and Finmark Company have monopolized the trade to thofe two countries to the year 1771. In Denmark, fays our faid author, the imports always exceed their exports; but in Norway it is quite the reverfe. In the Affignation, Exchange, or Loan Bank, at Copenhagen, eftablifhed in the year 1736, its bank notes are drawn for one hundred, fifty, and ten rixdollars, and pafs in all the King's dominions for current fpecie: their capital ftock being five hundred thoufand rixdollars, each worth four fhillings and fix-pence fterling. They lend out money, not under one hundred rixdollars, at four per cent. intereft, on depofiting a fufficient pledge, (in this refembling the royal bank of Edinburg, and with much the fame capital ftock.) At Copenhagen there is an infurance office for fhips; the number of which, coming annually into that port, is fo very confiderable, ac-

cording to Dr. Busching, that above three thousand vessels, great and small, laden with all kinds of merchandize, more especially provisions, timber, and materials for building, were entered at their custom-house in the year 1752. Here we may venture to presume, that at least three parts in four of that number must have been what we call, at London, small craft, or possibly many of them mere open boats.

The present Danish fleet consists of thirty-four ships of the line, sixteen frigates, and about fifty gallies; and their seamen about four thousand four hundred: but the number of registered seamen, with which, on any emergency, their fleet may be manned, is about twenty-four thousand.

I. Copenhagen, the capital city, on the fine island of Zealand, makes a magnificent appearance at a distance. It is very strong, contains four royal castles or forts, ten parish churches, and nine other churches of Calvinists and other tolerated persuasions, both French and Dutch, and sundry good hospitals. There is a considerable number of public and private palaces, above four thousand burghers houses, several of which are inhabited by ten or more families; eleven markets or public areas or squares, one hundred and eighty-six streets, and according to some near one hundred thousand inhabitants. Since the year 1746, its annual bills of births have amounted to at least two thousand five hundred and ninety-two, and in some years two thousand eight hundred and thirteen persons; and of burials, from two thousand five hundred and ninety-four to three thousand three hundred and eighty-six; (which pretty well answers to our usual computation of one out of thirty-three dying annually in healthy years). Its principal streets are built of brick, but the lanes are mostly of timber, they are illuminated with lanterns, and th city may be deemed one of the most beautiful and magnificent places in Europe. My Lord Molesworth, about sixty years ago, reckoned it nearly equal to our city of Bristol. Copenhagen has an university: it has one of the finest harbours in Europe, and although it admits of but one ship to enter it at a time, it is, however, capable of containing five hundred. There are canals in several of its streets, as in Holland and Hamburg, for ships to lie close to the houses. Its naval arsenal far exceeds that of Venice. Its trade is considerably increased of late years. In it are many manufactories of silk and woollen stuffs and cloths, fine linen, gold and silver lace, porcelain, &c. From hence, and from other Danish ports, they export horses, wheat, barley, rye, butter, tallow, stock-fish, train-oil, pitch and tar, iron and timber; beside great numbers of horned cattle, vended to Holland and other parts.

II. Helsinore is a town of some considerable commerce: here is paid the toll for ships passing the famous Sound, at its royal castle of Kronenburgh: at Helsinore all nations trading into the Baltic have, for that end, their consuls. It is the best town in the isle of Zealand, next to Copenhagen.

III. Roeskild, in the same island, was once the capital of Denmark, and is said to have been anciently of such magnitude, as to have contained twenty-seven churches and convents within its walls, but since the reformation of religion, and the increase of Copenhagen, it is become a mean place.

In the great peninsula of Jutland.

I. Aalburg, in North Jutland, is a large, populous, and ancient city, and, next to Copenhagen, is the most opulent and best built one of the of the whole kingdom. Here is a merchants exchange, and a safe harbour, from whence are exported great quantities of herring, grain, fire-arms, saddles, and gloves.

II. Wiburg has three parish churches, and twenty-eight streets and lanes, yet was anciently more considerable than at present.

III. In

III. In South Jutland, or the Dutchy of Slefwick, is the town of Appenrade, one of the beft and moft flourifhing of that country. It ftands on a bay of the Baltic: is noted for fhip-building, and a confiderable trade.

NORWAY,

WITH THE ISLES OF FERROE AND ICELAND, AND THE COUNTRY OF GRONELAND.

Norway is for the moft part a rocky, mountainous, and barren country; though with here and there feveral fertile parts. Its fcarcity of bread-corn, is in fome meafure compenfated by its immenfe quantities of excellent timber, chiefly of the fir and pine kinds; which they export to many parts of Europe in fuch quantities, that the fir-timber alone is faid to bring in a million of rix-dollars annually, viz. for mafts, beams, balks, and deal boards, with other houfe and fhip timber. In other parts, as in the diftricts of Bergen and Drontheim, they export vaft quantities of falted fifh in barrels, and alfo cod, fplit and dried in their cold air, merely without any falt, called ftock-fifh; alfo pickled and dried falmon, much train oil, or whale oil; immenfe quantities of marble; alfo touchftone, alabafter, flate, mill ftones, agate, and jafper. They have alfo pearl-fifheries, two filver mines, five copper mines, and fifteen very profitable iron mines, with fome lead and alum mines. Yet they have not falt enough of their own produce to fupply their large fifheries.

Their beft cities and towns are,

I. Chriftiana, the capital and beft city of the kingdom: it is regularly built at the bottom of an inlet or bay: is of a confiderable extent, and carries on a great trade.

2. Kongberg is a flourifhing town of about eleven thoufand people, owing to a very rich filver mine, difcovered in the year 1623, which gave birth to this town, immediately peopled with German miners. Dr. Bufching thinks, that no fewer than three thoufand five hundred perfons, officers, artificers, and labourers are employed on this mine, which alfo produces fome gold.

III. Bergen is the largeft city, and enjoys the greateft commerce of any place in Norway. Its harbour is defended by forts, and by neighbouring mountains. All its fix churches, public edifices, and moft of the houfes along the ftrand or fhore, are built of ftone; although, till of late, they were moftly built of timber: in times preceding the reformation, it is faid to have contained thirty churches and convents. It carries on a very great trade in furs, ftock-fifh, tallow, hides, and timber.

IV. Drontheim, a fea-port on the river Nid, is well fortified, has now but two churches, though in times of popery it had ten churches and five convents. It carries on, however, a confiderable trade in timber, fifh, tallow, and copper; and they have lately erected a fugar houfe. Here is a fine cathedral fchool, a feminary for miffionaries, an orphan-houfe, a work-houfe, and an hofpital.

THE NORWEGIAN ISLANDS.

I. The Ferroe Ifles lie in the Northern Ocean, about one hundred and feventy leagues fouth of Iceland, and not quite half fo much weftward from his Britannic Majefty's Shetland Ifles, and fomewhat farther to the weft of Norway: they are twenty-five in number, though only feventeen of them are inhabited, lying between the degrees of fixty-one fifteen minutes, and fixty-two degrees ten minutes. They are, in effect, fo many folid rocks, the furfaces whereof are covered with earth to the depth of an ell, which fhallow foil is fo fertile as to yield twenty for one in corn. Their paftures are ·cellent, efpecially for fheep, in the numerous flocks of which the wealth of the inhabitants confifts. oth.. · merchandize fold to foreigners are, falted mutton, goofe quills, eider down, feathers, knit

woollen waiſtcoats, caps and ſtockings, tallow, &c. Their religion is Lutheran; and but ſeven preachers, under a ſuperintendant, have the care of thirty-nine churches.—In Stromoe, the largeſt iſle, there is a ſmall town named Thorſhaven, defended by a fort, where there is a little ſchool; and this place is a common market for all thoſe iſles.

II. The Iſland of Iceland lies about one hundred and twenty Norway miles diſtant weſtward from Drontheim, and about ſixty ſouthward from Greenland: it is moſtly a mountainous country, yet there are roads practicable for a horſe in all parts of the iſland. Carriages were formerly uſed, but are now laid aſide, as the trouble attending them was too great. Every year ſome hundreds of pack-horſes come over the mountains from the north, to the trading places in the ſouth parts of the iſland, laden with butter, woollen manufactures, &c.—Iceland has many fiery irruptions, beſides the famous burning mountain of Hecla. No corn will grow in Iceland, wherefore the commonalty content themſelves without it, by means of dried fiſh and fleſh, and of a certain ſea vegetable dried at the fire. They have plenty of ſheep, for whoſe benefit nature ſeems to have provided ſhelter, in winter and other ſevere weather, by the many large caves in the earth, whither they retire. They have alſo plenty of horſes, which, though ſmall, are full of ſpirit, and lie in the open air all the year round, excepting ſuch as are broke for the ſaddle; and in winter they ſubſiſt only on what fodder they can ſcrape from under the ice and ſnow, as do likewiſe the ſheep, when the ſnow is not very deep, and the weather happens to be fair and mild; but if the ſheep happen to be ſurprized by a great ſnow, they immediately form themſelves into a cloſe compact body, by laying their heads together in the center, till their owners come to help them; though ſometimes they periſh before relief comes, through the weight of the ſnow. Their oxen and cows in the ſouth parts are fed with fiſh bones, and the water in which the fiſh is boiled. Here are no hogs; and tame poultry are too expenſive to be generally kept; but there is plenty of wild fowl. The uſual food is freſh and dried fiſh, dreſſed with butter, with milk, oatmeal, and fleſh; and their common drink is milk, or milk and water; though the more wealthy are fond of beer and ſpirituous liquors; and the moſt wealthy ſometimes purchaſe red and white French wines.

The commerce of Iceland is now confined to a company at Copenhagen, eſtabliſhed by a royal charter, in the year 1733, who annually ſend twenty-three ſhips thither; ſome to fiſh ports, others to fleſh ports. The cattle are delivered to the factors at the fleſh ports, and at the fiſh ports the factors purchaſe all the ſound dried cod and ling, and alſo the train oil, according to the fixed rate. The Icelanders either barter their commodities for thoſe of Denmark, or elſe receive Daniſh ready money for them. Accounts are kept here, and all calculations are made by fiſhes, forty-eight of which being deemed equal to a ſpecie dollar.—Their general exports are chiefly dried fiſh, ſalted mutton and beef, butter, train oil, tallow, coarſe and fine jackets of their woollen cloth called Wadmal, woollen ſtockings and gloves, red wool, ſheep ſkins and lamb ſkins, fox-tails, feathers, and quills. They have a printing preſs at Hoolar or Holum; and in every biſhop's ſee there is a public Latin ſchool, as a ſeminary for the clergy, from whence they go to the Univerſity of Copenhagen. The number of the inhabitants of Iceland is about fifty thouſand.

They have no towns properly ſo called, nor ſcarcely any deſerving the name of a village.

This account of Iceland, given by Dr. Buſching, is by far the beſt hitherto publiſhed.

Greenland, by which we by no means underſtand Spitſbergen, but the country often named or called Old Greenland, as far as is hitherto certainly known, is probably a part of, or joined to the great continent of North America. In the body of our work, under the year 817, is ſeen how early ſo inhoſpitable a country was known to and planted by the Norwegians.—That, in the year 1070, it was by them chriſtianized; and that it was unaccountably loſt about the year 1348: and that,

that, after some fruitless attempts, it was again re-colonized by Denmark in 1751. It has at present, says Dr. Busching, four Danish colonies, and one Moravian colony, where there are Christian congregations and missionaries: and the Greenland Company of Copenhagen, established in the year 1751, send thither three or four ships annually, for the trade of peltry, whale-fins, and train-oil.

GERMANY.

This country, according to Dr. Busching, is one thousand square German miles (each equal to four English ones) larger than France with all its modern acquisitions.

The rivulets running down from the Alps into the Rhine, convey with the sand many particles of gold. Chrystal is also found in the Upper Rhine. Plenty of fish in all its rivers, and of the best and greatest variety of timbers in its forests and woods. Many olive trees; and entire woods of chesnut and walnut trees. In her woods also are made much pot-ash, pitch, and charcoal. In some parts, for the cultivation of silk, there are great numbers of white mulberry trees.

Its soil produces all sorts of grain in plenty, of which considerable quantities are exported.

Its native materials for commerce are hemp, flax, hops, anise, cummin, tobacco, saffron, madder, truffles; variety of excellent roots and pot herbs. Fine fruits, equal to those of France and Italy. Excellent Rhenish, Mosel, Muscadel, and other wines, some of which exceed those of France and Hungary. All sorts of good cattle in the greatest plenty, also the best of cheese and butter. Tame and wild fowl of the best kinds. Salt springs. Pearls and various precious stones. Vitriol, allum, saltpetre, pit-coal, black and yellow amber, sulphur, quicksilver, virgin silver, cinnabar, arsenic, cobalt, antimony, and lapis calaminaris. Of metals, she has iron, steel, copper, lead, and tin: also loadstone.

Dr. Busching thinks it very probable, that Germany contains twenty-four millions of people, supposing France to contain twenty millions. Yet others think, that Germany does not contain above twenty millions, and France scarcely seventeen millions; more especially considering her late ruinous wars.

Germany is doubtless very advantageously situated for commerce, lying in the middle of Europe, open to three different seas, having many rivers navigable a vast way up its inland parts; from whence come down, and are exported to other countries, corn, tobacco, horses, lean cattle, butter, cheese, honey, wax, wines, linen and woollen, yarn, ribbons, silk and cotton stuffs, toys, turnery wares in wood, metals, and ivory, goat skins, wool, timber both for ship-building and houses, cannon and bullets, bombs and bomb-shells, iron plates and stoves, tinned plates, steel work, copper, brass wire, the finest porcelain upon earth, earthen ware, glasses, mirrors, hogs bristles, mum, beer, tartar, smalts, zafer. Prussian blue, printers ink, and many other things.

In order to the mercantile and political description of this large empire, we shall begin with Upper Saxony, as lying remotest and furthest north with respect to us.

UPPER-SAXONY.

The electoral dominions of his Prussian Majesty in Germany are,

I. Brandenburg, or eastern, Pomerania, yields plenty of all good things, wine only excepted; as, timber both for houses and shipping. pitch and tar, flax and hemp, grain of all kinds, and salt-works. Its geese are famous for the largeness of their size, and dried Pomeranian geese, ham, sausages,

fages, and falmon, are efteemed the beft in all Germany. Its extended coaft along the Baltic fhore, to the confines of Polifh Pruffia, as well as on the eaft coaft of the great river Oder, is extremely beneficial to trade and navigation.

Of the places of Pruffian or Brandenburg Pomerania, where manufactures flourifh, the principal are, Stetin, the capital city of the whole dutchy of Pomerania, Stargard, Colberg, Coflin, Camin, and Corlin. The commerce of Stetin may be gueffed at, fays Dr. Bufching, from whence, in the year 1756, there were exported to England, Holland, France, Spain, Denmark, Norway, Sweden, Mecklenburg, Pruffia, Dantzick, Lubeck, and Hamburg:

Blue ftarch (though not a manufacture of this country, but imported)	10,089	lbs.
Antimony — — — —	72,210	
Arfenic — — — — —	1,171	cwt.
Tin — — — — —	106	plates
Dimity — — — — —	106	pieces
Flannel — — — — —	251	
Lapis Calaminaris — — — —	107	tons
Glafs — — — — —	6,649	half chefts
Holland Glafs — — — —	17,608	rix-dollars worth
Timber for building — — — .	130,966	
Ship Timber — — — —	8,916	
Haberdafhery wares — — — -	22,526	
Wood for fewel — — — —	33,186	cords*
Guiacum — — — —	1,401	fchocks†
Clap-boards — — — —	2,598	
Mafts — — — — —	30	mafts
Planks — — — — —	5,179	planks
Pipe ftaves — — — —	22,861	fchocks
Hogfhead ftaves — — — —	8,108	
Ton ftaves — — — —	32,814	
Cord — — — — —	24	chefts
Stone blocks — — — —	436,960	blocks
Glafs — — — — —	639	cwt.
Pot-afh — — — — —	147	tons
Madder — — — — —	408	cwt.
Scythes — — — — —	1,830	
Sope — — — — —	233	tons
Tobacco — — — — —	5,812	cwt.
Woollen cloth — — — —	3,448	pieces
Poland wool — — — —	775	cwt.

* So the Englifh tranflation has it.——† "A fchock" fays the Tranflator, is any number "of fixty," which is quite unintelligible.

All which goods were exported in one thoufand fix hundred and feventy-one veffels, befide ninety-feven which went away in ballaft.

 The

The tranflator has, we imagine, rightly named them veffels, as probably many of them were of fmall burden. This brief catalogue of merchandize gives a very favourable idea of the commerce of Stetin, as well as a view of the productions of Pomerania. That city is feated on the left of the Oder, and is large, handfome, and well fortified; has a chamber of commerce, a royal gymnafium or capital fchool, and an arfenal; has feven Lutheran churches, a French Calvinift church, and a Popifh one; a court of admiralty, a dock for fhipping, many and great variety of manufactures, and an extenfive foreign commerce: in its caftle all the courts and colleges of the province have their meetings and records. This city, and all the countries betwixt the rivers Peine and Oder, with the ifles of Wollin and Ufedom, were yielded for ever by Sweden to the King of Pruffia, by the treaty of Stockholm, in the year 1720; in confideration whereof, the King of Pruffia paid two hundred thoufand rix-dollars to Sweden.

2. Anclam, on the Peine, contains two churches, and has improved its commerce fince it came under the Pruffian dominion.

3. The ifland of Ufedom, with a town of the fame name, and the Peinemunder Schanz, commanding the entrance into the Peine. On the north fide of this ifle, next the Baltic, ftood the once famous town and port of Winet; which, with much adjoining land, was fwallowed up by an inundation in the eighth or ninth century, or, as others write, was deftroyed by the Danes. Dr. Bufching relates, that, at low tides in the Baltic, fome ruins of that place are ftill vifible, at the diftance of half a German mile from the ifland.

4. In the ifle of Wollin, north of the Frifch-haff, ftands its chief town named Wollin, on the fcite of the ancient city of Julin, once fo famous for commerce; though of a very obfcure origin.—See our main work, under the years 1080 and 1182.

5. Damm, a fmall town, in which is a fine fteel manufacture.

6. In what is called the proper dutchy of Pomerania, lies Stargard, the capital of the Eaftern Pomerania, having, by means of the river Ihna, a communication with the Baltic Sea. It is large, well built, has four churches, and fome charitable foundations, feveral good manufactures, and a confiderable commerce.

7. Cammin, with its fuburbs, makes at prefent a good figure, by means of its navigation, fifhing, and agriculture.

8. Belgard, in the county of Caffubia, has a caftle and provoftfhip, with a good trade.

9. And the like of New Stetin, built after the model of the capital city of that name.

10. Rugenwald, on the Baltic fhore, is a large and well-built town; and,

11. Rummelfburg, a town where there is a cloth manufacture.

12. Stolpe, a town having two Lutheran churches, and one Calvinift one. It has a great linen trade, and deals largely with Dantzick, from which it is diftant about fifteen German miles. Here are made very curious toys in amber.

13. Colberg, a well fortified and confiderably large town, on the Baltic fhore, of which it gave fufficient proof in the year 1761, when befieged and taken by the Ruffians. By means of its good woollen and linen manufactures, its trade with neighbouring Poland, and by its numerous fhipping, it is at prefent in a thriving condition, having four parifh churches, and being noted alfo for the profitable falt pits in its neighbourhood.

14. Cofhn, a fair and newly re-built town, with fome manufactures; and

15. Corlin, a fmall place, having, however, fome good woollen manufactures.

This is the epitomized ſubſtance of the preſent ſtate of the Pruſſian, and by far the beſt part of the large dutchy of Pomerania; which, according to Dr. Buſching, at preſent yields about five times as much revenue to its ſovereign, as the Swediſh part of Pomerania.

II. Swediſh Pomerania was originally larger than at preſent.

1. In it lies the principality and iſland of Rugen, with ſeveral adjacent iſles, containing twenty-ſeven pariſhes. That iſle has, in ancient times, made a much greater figure than at preſent. It abounds in grain and cattle; but Bergen, its chief town, though the ſeat of its government, is both open and ſmall.

2. On the continent, oppoſite to, and about an Engliſh mile diſtant from Rugen, ſtands the ancient, and once much more famous than at preſent, city and port of Straelſund, the capital of Swediſh Pomerania, of old an eminent member of the Hanſeatic League. At preſent its citizens ſtill form a numerous body, amongſt whom are many ſubſtantial merchants. Here is a gymnaſium, or illuſtrious academy. Its principal commerce is in corn, pitch, tar, roſin, hides, tallow, honey, and wax. It is almoſt, however, needleſs to add, that this city has greatly declined, ſince it loſt its more free condition.

3. Gripeſwald, a ſea-port and univerſity, once a Hans-town; it has three pariſh churches, and a good trade in corn, hides, and tallow.

4. Wolgaſt, is a decayed ſea-port town, which, after many diſaſters, has ſtill ſome commerce.

Dr. Buſching thinks, that the entire revenue of Swediſh Pomerania does not exceed one hundred and twenty-four thouſand rix-dollars: whereas that of Pruſſian Pomerania may amount to eight hundred thouſand rix-dollars: that, in the entire dutchy, there are twenty-eight towns, and that, in common years, there die annually twelve thouſand perſons, which, multiplied by thirty-three, makes the whole number of inhabitants to amount to three hundred and ninety-ſix thouſand, and not to four hundred and ſixty thouſand, as that author's computation makes them amount to.

In general it may be obſerved, with Dr. Buſching, that the Mark or Marquiſate of Brandenburg, under King Frederick-William, and his great ſon King Frederick II. has acquired a new and more pleaſing form. Agriculture has, under the reigns of thoſe two great princes, been almoſt marvelouſly improved, waſte and barren lands have been cultivated: ſuperfluous woods grubbed up, and villages erected in their ſtead; deep moraſſes drained and rendered fertile. Its remaining woods and foreſts rendered more ſerviceable, not only for common fuel, but for glaſs-houſes, forges, charcoal, tar, pot-aſh, houſe and ſhip-timber, the latter partly exported to Hamburg, Holland, and other countries. Here grow, in abundance, millet, buck-wheat, flax, woad, and tobacco. From their fine wool many good manufactures have been eſtabliſhed. The culture of ſilk has ſucceſsfully been propagated, and is conſtantly increaſing. This country alſo produces alum, ſaltpetre, amber, porcelain earth, and iron ſtone. The Elbe and Oder, two of the greateſt and moſt navigable rivers in Germany, running through this marquiſate, are of very great benefit. The great Elector Frederic-William, in ſix years time, viz. between 1662 and 1668, joined the rivers Spree and Oder, by means of a canal, three German miles, or twelve Engliſh miles, in length. The Havel and Oder have been joined by his preſent Majeſty, Frederick III. between the years 1743 and 1746, by a canal, having thirteen ſluices. And the ſame great Prince, between 1743 and 1745, cauſed a canal to be dug, four and an half German miles in length, with three ſluices on it, from the river Elbe to the river Havel; whereby the water-carriage between Berlin and Magdeburg is ſhortened about one-half, and nine different bridges are laid over it. Moreover, what is called the Oder Canal, runs out of the Oder at a certain place, and, for the like ſhortening of the water-paſſage, enters that river again; which canal was opened in the year 1753. There are alſo divers inland lakes, between

which a communication has been made by means of canals and ſluices. Theſe are truly magnificent works. Yet we have ſtill more to relate.

It ſeems, that, by wars, famine, and peſtilence, this country was become much thinned of inhabitants, for the ſupplying of which, and out of regard to his diſtreſſed Proteſtant brethren, the Elector Frederic-William invited the French refugees, driven from home by their King, Louis the Fourteenth, to come and ſettle here, where he beſtowed on them conſiderable benefits and immunities, which were further enlarged by his ſon, Frederic the Firſt, created King of Pruſſia; whereby many hundreds of families were induced to ſettle here. Moreover, ſince the year 1688, many Lorrainers, Walloons, Switzers, Bohemians, and other Germans, have been kindly received here. By all which acceſſions, the number of this marquiſate's inhabitants were, in the year 1756, computed to amount to eight hundred thouſand, the majority of which are of the Lutheran communion.

Thoſe French refugees have introduced many fine and profitable manufactures into this country, to which they were formerly utter ſtrangers; principally at Berlin and Potſdam: as woollen cloths, and ſtuffs of many kinds; wrought ſilks and ſilk ſtuffs, velvets, tapeſtries, gold and ſilver lace, &c.

In this marquiſiate are made alum, ſaltpetre, gunpowder, fine porcelain, wrought and caſt iron, ſteel and braſs work, military weapons of all ſorts, excellent mirrors; here alſo are ſugar-houſes, wrought leather, and tobacco plantations. At Berlin alſo, are excellent painters, engravers, ſtatuaries, enamellers, jewellers, goldſmiths, mathematical and other inſtrument makers. By all which means, a ſaving is not only made of much money kept at home, but very large quantities of the before-named merchandize are exported to foreign countries, to a great amount, through the convenience of the above-named rivers and canals.

Dr. Buſching ſays he is well informed, that in all his Pruſſian Majeſty's dominions, on a medium of ſix years, from 1750 to 1756, there are annually chriſtened one hundred and ſixty-ſix thouſand five hundred and ſixty-ſeven children; and about one hundred and twenty-five thouſand three hundred and forty-eight perſons die annually; therefore, according to him, this laſt ſum, multiplied by thirty-eight, gives the whole number of his Majeſty's ſubjects to be four million ſeven hundred and ſixty-three thouſand two hundred and twenty-four, Yet we are apprehenſive, that this is a conſiderable miſcomputation, if we are to be guided by moſt other careful obſervers, and that even in healthy years and countries, there probably dies one out of thirty-three, but in great and voluptuous cities one out of thirty, and that, even if the multiplier be thirty-three, the number of people will be only four million one hundred and thirty-ſix thouſand four hundred and eighty-four, in all that King's territories, although that author obſerves, that ſome have eſtimated them to amount to five millions of people.

The ſame author informs us, that the entire annual revenue of his Pruſſian Majeſty's territories are computed to amount to near twenty millions of dollars, or between four and five millions ſterling.

I. In the Old Mark, or Marquiſate, are the following towns, viz.

1. Stendal, its chief town, formerly a member of the Hans League, contains four pariſh churches. Here the French refugees have introduced ſeveral good manufactures.

2. Soltwedel has alſo four pariſh churches: and a good manufacture of cloth, frizes, ſerges, ſtockings, and linen; and ſells much beer to other parts. It was alſo formerly a Hans-town.

3. Gardelegen has two churches, four hoſpitals, two of which have churches or chapels. It has a cloth manufacture.

In the district of Prignitz, are,

4. Perlberg has two churches, and three hundred and sixty-nine dwelling houses, but no particular manufacture.

5. Havelberg, on the Havel, distils and vends great quantities of brandy, makes many knit stockings, builds many boats for the Elbe, on which it sends down vast quantities of cord wood.

II. In the Middle Mark, are,

1. Brandenburg, on the Havel, contains four churches, and about one thousand two hundred inhabitants. A small colony of French refugees have here introduced manufactures of woollen cloth, fustian, and canvas; and, in general, a tolerable trade by land and water; having been formerly a Popish bishopric, it has still a Protestant chapter.

2. Potsdam, on the Havel, beside having a favourite royal palace, has also many fine houses, and four churches. Its large orphan hospital maintains and educates two thousand children of soldiers of both sexes, having both a Lutheran and Calvinist preacher. At this fine town is a great foundery for artillery, also various manufactures of silk, velvet, &c. Here also are noble conveniencies for the horse and foot guards.

3. Spandau is a very famous fort, has an excellent foundery for artillery, is a thriving little town, with a spinning and correction house.

4. Berlin, on the river Spree, is the principal residence of the King, and the capital of all his dominions; one of the largest, finest, and most populous cities in Germany, containing many fine palaces, beside the King's, and many beautiful streets and squares, with twenty-five churches, viz. fourteen Lutheran and eleven Calvinist ones, and also one Popish church: it has several polite academies, theatres, schools, and two libraries. Here were reckoned, says Dr. Busching, in the year 1755, five thousand eight hundred and twenty-six houses, and (including the garrison, their wives and children) it then contained one hundred and twenty-six thousand six hundred and sixty-one inhabitants. It has many excellent and important manufactures and rich fabrications. In Coln, on the other side the river, is the King's palace, and many other fine ones.

The great increase of Berlin is almost entirely owing to the French Protestant refugees, who are here in vast numbers, and have several churches. It was they who brought manufactures and trade into great credit; seeing, till then, there were but about fourteen thousand people in Berlin, *i.e.* till about the year 1690. In the year 1755, there were no less than four hundred and forty-three silk looms, one hundred and forty-nine of half silks, two thousand eight hundred and fifty-eight looms for woollen stuffs, four hundred and fifty-three for cotton, two hundred and forty-eight for linen, four hundred aud fifty-four for lace work, thirty-nine frames for silk stockings, and three hundred and ten for worsted ones. They have here manufactures of tapestry, gold and silver lace, mirrors, &c. Here also are many charitable foundations, and very prudent regulations: here also are several salt and sugar houses.

In its neighbourhood are several small towns, in one of which, named Strausberg, the inhabitants are mostly clothiers, supplying a great part of the army with bayes: near it also are brass works, black and white tin plate, and polished steel manufactures. The river Spree, communicating by canals both with the Elbe and Oder, brings up to Berlin great barks continually from Hamburg and other cities.

We are principally indebted to Dr. Busching's new Geography, for this fine account of Berlin's vast improvements in so short a space, which, as well as that of Petersburg, may shew what wise and resolute measures can effect when steadily pursued, for the advancement of commerce and riches, and the increase of useful subjects. A manifest difference is, however, observable between the advancement

vancement of these two cities; the latter rapidly, compulsively, and arbitrarily effected, and therefore more likely to be less permanent; since a future equally despotic monarch may possibly dislike the situation of so damp and cold a place, and, by the return of the court to Moscow, or to some other city, much of the commerce of Petersburg may be dissipated; whereas the advancement of Berlin, though not so rapid as the other, has been brought about by well conceited, kindly and gently attractive measures, and therefore more likely to prove durable.

In the circle of Lebus, lies,

1. Francfort on the Oder, once a Hans-town, has an university, three Lutheran and two Calvinist churches. It has a tolerable trade in linen and woollen goods, and has two annual fairs to which many Jews resort from Poland.

2. Lebus is an inconsiderable town on the Oder.

3. Ruppin has above eight hundred burghers, as Dr. Busching's English translator darkly expresses it, two Lutheran churches, and one Calvinist one. It deals largely in woollen cloth of its own manufacture, and likewise in grain and beer.

4. At Nieustadt is a glass house, and also one for casting of mirrors.

In the Ucker Mark, the only city of eminence, in a mercantile sense, is Prenslow its capital, on the Ucker. It is large and well built, and has a numerous French colony. It contains six churches; has a good manufacture of woollen cloth, and a large trade in corn, tobacco, and cattle.

The New Mark contains,

1. Custrin, its capital, on the Oder, is an exceeding strong town, having three churches, two hospitals, and a workhouse, though little of any thing commercial.

2. Landsberg, on the Warta, is well built; has three churches, and some fine woollen manufactures.

3. Crossen, dutchy, was formerly, as well as Silesia, of which some deem it a part, subject to Poland. The town of that name stands on the Oder, and has two Lutheran churches, and one Calvinist church: it has some woollen and linen manufactures, and makes some wine in its neighbourhood, though not esteemed very good.

4. Cotbus, near the river Spree, has three Lutheran and two Calvinist churches, and some good woollen manufactures, and certain charitable foundations.

I. In Upper Saxony circles, all its twenty-two states or sovereignties are Protestant, the Eelectoral-house of Saxony, of late years, excepted.

The Electorate of Saxony, taken in general, is one of the best countries in all Germany, abounding in all kinds of grain, fruits, corn, metals of all kinds but gold, antimony, (the silver mine near Friburg, according to Mr. Nugent's Grand Tour, produces, every fifteen days, to the value of twenty thousand dollars) pitch and tar, hops, flax, wine, though chiefly only in Misnia, tobacco, anise, saffron, pit coal, fullers earth, porcelain, marble, precious stones, as diamonds, topazes, hyacinths, rubies, granates, amethists, sapphires, says Dr. Busching, opals, cornelians, agates, and jasper, salt-works, cinnabar, sulphur, quicksilver, amber, and cobalt, whereof smalt, or a blue colour, is made in vast quantities, and in the greatest repute, much of which is exported, to great profit.

This electorate contains two hundred and ten walled towns, sixty-one market towns, and about three thousand villages. The manufactures here are fine and coarse linen and thread in great quantities, ticking, canvas, fustians, cottons, fine lace, ribbons, paper, the finest porcelain, glass of many kinds, variety of iron, steel, and brass manufactures, gold and silver stuffs, woollen cloth, flannels, frizes, stuffs, stockings, fabrics of silks, velvets, plush, handkerchiefs, hats, gloves, caps,

 fine

fine tapestry, starch, and many other articles: by all which an important foreign commerce is carried on.

Mr. Nugent, in his Grand Tour, thinks the revenues of this electorate may amount to near eight millions of rixdollars; but Dr. Busching's opinion is, that they are between six and seven millions; we will therefore suppose them only to be six millions; at four shillings and six-pence per dollar, it amounts to one million three hundred and fifty thousand pounds sterling.

In the proper dutchy of Saxony, lie,

1. Wittenberg, near the Elbe, has a famous university; and, though not large, has an arsenal and fortifications, but nothing memorable in respect to commerce.

2. Herzberg, deals in wool, and has woollen manufactures, and saltpetre works.

In the Landgravate of Thuringia, lies,

1. Weissenfels, a well built and fortified city on the Sala, having three churches, and has manufactures of silk and velvet, with some charitable foundations.

2. Langensalza, on the Salza, has two churches, and about nine hundred houses: its manufactures consist in half silks and woollen stuffs, and it deals in corn and grain.

3. The city and territory of Erfurth, though lying in Thuringia, is subject to the Elector of Mentz; the city is large, but not populous, and, like other places under the sovereignty of ecclesiastical Princes, is crouded with cloisters, abbeys, nunneries, collegiate and other churches and chapels, a Jesuits college, four Popish parish churches, and six Lutheran churches, and an improved university for both religions. Its chief trade is in corn, wine, and woad for dyers.

4. Weimar has two churches, is the head of a principality or dutchy named Saxe-Weimar. It deals largely in wines, corn, and hops.

5. Jena is the only good town in the principality of Eissenach, which now belongs to the Duke of Saxe-Weimar. It has a celebrated university; it stands on the river Saale, is well fortified, has three churches, and the pleasant vale in its vicinity produces much wine. Mr Nugent, in his Grand Tour, says, that Lutheran students from Livonia, Poland, Silesia, and Hungary, study here for its cheapness.

Coburgh is the chief and only good town of a principality of that name, now partly annexed to the Electoral-house of Saxony. It has four churches, has a gold and silver stuff manufactory, one of porcelain, and has, in its neighbourhood, plenty of corn, cattle, wine, iron, stone, marble, and pit coal.

In the principality of Saxe-Hilburghausen stands Hilburghausen, on the Werra, the ducal residence. It has two Lutheran churches, and one Calvinist church, has a ducal palace, and many handsome houses, but is not remarkable for commerce.

The principality of Saxe-Gotha abounds in grain and fruit. Gotha, its capital, is one of the best and handsomest towns in Thuringia, having four churches, and about two thousand houses, a *gymnasium illustre*, or illustrious school, and many charitable foundations. It has a considerable trade in woollen and other manufactures, as have some other smaller places in this principality. It deals also in woad and beer, and has a foundery for cannon, &c. In this city also there is a laboratory, a museum, an armory, and a fine ducal palace. This Prince is the chief of the Ernestine line of Saxony, and is, by some authors, said to have so large a revenue as two hundred thousand pounds sterling per annum, being the most powerful of all the Saxon Princes next to the Electoral family: he is lineally descended from the Elector Frederic Magnanimus, who was deprived by the Emperor V. since which time the Albertine line has enjoyed the dignity of the Electorate.

The

The principality of Altenburg, is now in the Electoral family of Saxony. Altenburg, its capital, is moderately large and populous; has two churches, many charitable foundations, an illustrious school, or *gymnasium*: it has some gold and silk stuff manufactures, salt and iron works, some woollen manufactures. Here, and at its smaller towns, are potters and curriers; and the country abounds in corn and strong cattle, and also in copper and vitriol.

N. B. Although the before-named five principalities are said to be within the Electorate of Saxony, the reader needs not to be told, that three of them are no part of the proper dominions of the Elector, as before is shewn, but are subject to their own independent Princes.

The counties of Stolberg and Wernigerode in Thuringia, do both belong to the Count of Stolberg, the latter being a fief of Brandenburg.

1. Stolberg town is the place of residence of the Count, having two Lutheran churches. And the town of Wernigerode has four Lutheran churches: in it is a great trade in the brewery and distillery business: here also are manufactures of woollen goods: here also are iron mills, flatting mills, paper and powder mills; also copper mines.

In the lordships of the Counts of Reussen in Voigtland are mines of silver, copper, iron, lead, and alum.

1. The town of Greitz has two Lutheran churches, a palace, an orphan house, a great school, and other foundations. And its trade consists in stuffs, and some other manufactures.

2. Gera has five churches, a *gymnasium*, or illustrious school, and, for its beauty, is called Little Leipzig. It has good manufactures of cloths, stuffs, and stockings; of which much is exported: here also are iron mills.

3. Schleitz is a town of three churches, and has a woollen manufacture.

In the lordships of the Counts of Schonburg, in the Margravate of Misnia, are fourteen towns; in which all sorts of manufactures flourish, according to Busching; who, however, has not been at all particular therein.

The Marquisate of Lusatia is a Lutheran country and province, subject to the Elector of Saxony, lying north of the kingdom of Bohemia. It produces grain and pulse, flax, hops, alum, tobacco, iron, and some wine. Its numerous and very good woollen and linen manufactures are of great importance to those towns, wherein, according to Dr. Busching, they have flourished so early as the thirteenth century.

The former persecutions of Protestants in Bohemia and Silesia forced great numbers of them to withdraw to, and settle in Upper Lusatia, where they founded many villages, and propagated the linen manufactures, particularly fine table linen and tickings. Here are also good manufactures of hats, stockings, paper, gunpowder, leather, iron, wax-bleaching, glass, &c. Yet all those manufactures are, in some degree, decreased of later times, as one nation or people are constantly justling another out of commerce and manufactures.

In Upper Lusatia are,

1. Bautzen, the capital of the whole Marquisate. It is considerably large, well built and inhabited; having several churches, hospitals, and workhouses; has a considerable trade in linen, hats, stockings, gloves, cloth, fustian, &c.

2. Gorlitz, though not the first in rank, is, however, esteemed the largest town in all Lusatia, having six parish churches, and several hospitals; and a considerable cloth manufacture.

3. Zittaw is also a fine and good town, having several churches and hospitals; and has good manufactures of woollen, linen, and blue paper.

In

In Lower Lusatia are the five circle, or district, towns of Luckau, Guben, Lubben, Kalaw, and Spremberg; most of which towns, though not quite so considerable as the foregoing ones, are, however, manufacturing places. Sorau is likewise a good town, with five churches, and manufactures much woollen cloth, yarn, and linen.

In the excellent country of Meissen or Misnia are,

1. Meissen, on the Elbe, is a well fortified town; it has four churches and several schools. It is here that the chief manufacture of the finest porcelain on earth is carried on, though best known abroad by the name of Dresden porcelain, much finer and dearer than what comes from China.

2. Dresden, the Electoral capital, is one of the finest cities in all Germany, pleasantly seated on both sides the river Elbe. Beside its fortifications, and the noble palace of the Elector, in which are vast collections of the richest curiosities, here are very many grand and magnificent buildings, both public and private; many churches and charitable foundations. And, what is most to our purpose, here are iron, copper, and silver founderies; marble works, mills for boring and polishing of mirrors; many rich and fine manufactures of woollen cloth and stuffs, and of stockings, &c. linen, lace, embroidery, fine cut glasses, Spanish leather, gold and silver stuffs, founderies for bells, cannon, &c. Most excellent performances in statuary, painting, enamelling, and carving. Moreover, by means of the Elbe, a considerable foreign commerce is from hence carried on.

Dresden, according to Dr. Busching, may, with all its suburbs, contain ninety thousand people.

3. Pirna, on the left of the Elbe, is a very strong town; has two churches; and, by means of that river, carries on a considerable trade: its neighbouring quarries of what they call sand stone, cut into large blocks for statuaries, are much exported to foreign parts.

4. Grossen-Hayne, on the Roder, has three churches, and some manufactures of woollen cloth, stockings, and gloves. It was at this town that the fine green colour for dying was of late years invented, known in foreign parts by the name of Saxon Green.

5. Torgau, on the Elbe, is a good town, with a citadel, and three churches; and has manufactures of woollen cloth, silk, and velvet.

6. Oschatz has three churches, and has woollen and other manufactures.

The circle of Leipzig contains,

1. Leipzig, one of the finest, politest, and most celebrated cities in Germany. It stands on the little river Pleiss, which is not navigable; yet is one of the most principal trading towns in all Germany, enjoying in general not only an important foreign trade, but likewise particularly at its three celebrated annual fairs, to which dealers from all parts of Europe resort, both for foreign and domestic merchandize. It has a fine exchange, a strong citadel, a cloth hall, and all sorts of manufactures of gold, silver, silk, woollen, and linen, velvets, tapestry, cotton printing, leather, Prussian blue, stockings, &c. Mr. Nugent's Grand Tour makes the number of people within its walls amount to forty thousand two hundred, beside those in its populous suburbs; and says, that its great merchants houses look like princely palaces: it contains nine Lutheran churches, a Popish chapel, and a large room for the public worship of the French Calvinists. Ever since the year 1701, says Dr. Busching, its streets have been provided with above seven hundred lamps. Beside its many stately edifices, here is a most famous university consisting of six colleges.

2. Grimma has three churches. Its principal trade consists in timber, woollen cloth, and thread, the latter much esteemed at Leipzig fairs and in foreign parts: here is a flannel printing house, this town having been the first place in Saxony that imitated the English flannel.

3. Leifznig has two churches, and manufactures of coarfe woollen cloth, ftockings, lace, linen, fuftians, hats, combs; alfo yarn and linen bleaching.

4. Dobeln has three churches, and manufactures of coarfe woollen goods, of fine hats, fine linen damafk and ticking.

5. Rochlitz, a town of the like magnitude and manufactures.

6. Wurzen, on the river Muldau, has three churches. Here are many houfes for cloth dying, ftockings, and linen bleaching.

Thefe fix towns are much given to the woollen and linen manufactures; for which ends they alfo have foap making. Fullers earth is dug in this country.

In the circle of Erfgebirg are,

1. Freyberg, on the Muldau, is the principal mine town of this Electorate. It contains about two thoufand houfes, and, in the year 1725, contained fixty thoufand inhabitants. This town is ftrongly fortified; has eight churches: it has the direction of all the mines of Saxony: the filver mines here are the moft profitable of any in Mifnia, and are as ancient as the year 1171: here alfo are mines of copper, tin, and lead; the net profits of all which mines did, in the year 1630, yield no lefs than three millions feven hundred and twenty-five thoufand three hundred and thirty-feven florins, and from that year to 1708, upwards of nine millions of rix-dollars. Here alfo is a foundery for cannon and for bells; a fulphur and vitriol houfe, and manufactures of thread and lace. Here, fays Dr. Bufching, is a gymnafium with eight teachers, a public library, and feveral charitable foundations.

2. Chemnitz was of old an imperial city. It is at prefent a good town, having a citadel, and three churches; and has many ftuff and linen weavers, as have likewife fundry fmaller towns in this diftrict.

3. Altenburg's rich tin mine is thought to yield the beft tin, next to thofe of England and Bohemia. Here alfo are many other fmall mine towns, where filver, lead, and tin are digged, and where fulphur, vitriol, alum, and arfenic are prepared, where alfo are iron forges, and black and white tinned iron plates, fent in great quantities to Leipzig, and thence down the Elbe to Hamburg, and thence again to Amfterdam, London, and other parts. Here alfo are made coarfe cloth, lace, &c. Many of thefe mine towns were originally peopled in the feventeenth century, by perfecuted Proteftants, driven out by the bigotry of the houfe of Auftria from the neighbouring parts of Bohemia.

4. Zwickaw, on the Muldau, formerly alfo an imperial city, is ftill one of the largeft towns in Mifnia, having a citadel, and three parifh churches: it has a manufactory of woollen cloth, of wool cards, and fhoe leather. Here alfo they trade in timber, iron, pit coal, fand ftone, marble and corn.

In Voigtland circle is Plauen, the head town of it, having a citadel, and two churches. Its manufactures are of woollen and cotton; and here alfo is cotton printing. Here are alfo fome few fmaller towns, dealing in woollen cloth and brafs wares, and having many iron founderies.

Newftadt, on the Orla, is the head of its circle, has a citadel and two churches; and Weyda the like: at thefe two are manufactured fine calimancoes, camblets, and other woollen ftuffs.

In the Foundation, as it is called by the Saxons, of Merfeburg is Merfburg, a town on the Sala, has a Lutheran chapter, a cathedral, and three parifh churches, although its principal trade confifts only in a kind of ftrong beer, which is exported to many diftant parts. In this diftrict are fome other fmall and inconfiderable towns and villages.

In

In the Bishopric of Naumburg is,

Naumburg, on the Sala, having a Lutheran chapter, three churches, and a citadel: it has an annual fair, with considerable privileges. And Zeits, on the Elster, has four churches, and a woollen manufactory.

In the principality of Anhault, are mines of lead, copper, iron, and silver; also coals, sulphur, alum, vitriol, and saltpetre: here are also grain, hops, and some wine.

Dessau, its capital, has two Calvinist churches, and one Lutheran church, several charitable foundations, and the Prince's palace. Here are good manufactures of woollen cloth, stockings, and hats. Bernburg, on the Sala, is the capital of a principality of that name, contains three churches: and Cothen and Zerbst are also pretty good towns: where are manufactures of gold and silver stuffs.

Quedlinburg, an ancient imperial abbey, which embraced Lutheranism, in the year 1539, is under the patronage of the King of Prussia. The abbess, as such, is a Princess of the empire, having a seat and vote in the diets.

Quedlinburg city, on the Bode, has a court of justice belonging to the abbey, and a magistracy subject to the abbey; has four or five churches, and several charitable foundations.

Arnstadt on the Gera, the head of the principality of Swartzburgh, has three churches; and possesses some brass, iron, and saltpetre works.

Frankenhausen has four churches and some charitable foundations. Its numerous salt works are some of the most famous in all Germany, and are the principal means of its prosperity.

The county of Mansfield contains some mines of copper and of silver ore. The town of that name is now quite inconsiderable, but the town of Eizleben has four parish churches and one thousand houses, some hundreds of which, says Dr. Busching, are brewhouses.

The Circle of Lower Saxony.

The dutchy of Mecklenburg is generally Lutheran in religion, interspersed with some Calvinist churches.

It abounds in many large and small lakes, and in large and desolate heaths, moors, woods, fens, and quarries. Half the country is of a sandy soil; and even its pastures and meadows make but an indifferent appearance, when compared with those of Holstein and Pomerania, on each side of it. Others indeed, says Dr. Busching, speak more favourably of this country. It contains salt springs, alum, iron, and some copper. It has some woollen manufactures, tanned leather dressers. It exports corn, flax, hemp, hops, wax, honey, wool, timber, cattle, butter, and cheese. The entire annual revenue of Mecklenburg-Schwerin is estimated at three hundred thousand rix-dollars: that of the Strelitz line about one hundred and twenty-six thousand rix-dollars. To the Strelitz line also belong the small town and principality of Ratzburg.

Towns in Mecklenburg-Schwerin are

1. Schwerin, the ducal residence, on a lake of the same name. It is built nearly square.

2. Domitz, a small fortified town, at the confluence of the Elde into the Elbe, where a toll of very considerable produce is collected.

3. The bailiwick of the church village named Mecklenburg, in the neighbourhood of Wismar, once a great town, which, since the building of Wismar, has insensibly dwindled to a mean village. In this neighbourhood are salt works and alum.

4. Gustrow, the best town of its district, containing a cathedral, parish church, and ducal palace.

5. Roſtock, though a free and imperial city, and formerly a famous Hans-town, is ſituated within this dutchy, on the river Warno; and is by far the largeſt town in both dutchies, and thought to be nearly equal to Lubeck in magnitude. Its haven has a ſmall town, named Warnemund, very convenient for commerce. Roſtock has an univerſity, partly ſubject to the city, and, in part alſo, ſubject to the Duke; it has ſeven churches, a Lutheran convent for young ladies natives of this city, and ſeveral other charitable foundations It ſtill carries on a conſiderable commerce, and has a diſtrict with ſome ſmall towns and villages circumjacent. One of its chief trades is in fine beer.

6. New Brandenburg has two churches and a grammar ſchool, and great quantities of hops are raiſed in its neighbourhood.

7. Strelitz, though in a marſhy neighbourhood, is the reſidence of the Duke of that name; but is not eminent for commerce.

8. At the peace of Weſtphalia, the once eminent city of Wiſmar, in this dutchy, was ceded to the crown of Sweden. Notwithſtanding its great declenſion from its ancient glory, when it was the rendezvous of the Hanſeatic fleets, it has ſtill ſix churches, a grammar ſchool, with eight maſters; and ſtill enjoys a moderate trade, being one of the beſt and largeſt places in all theſe countries, ſituated on a bay of the Baltic ſhore. It has a ſmall diſtrict of villages and farms, and was very ſtrong till unfortunately diſmantled by the Danes, in the year 1717, in their war with Sweden. It is at preſent principally noted for brewing of excellent mum.

The dutchy of Holſtein, with the lordſhip of Pinneberg, and the town of Altona, have ſeveral manufactures, particularly at Altona and Gluckſtadt; beſide the very numerous and important ones of the city of Hamburg; which city, and that of Lubeck, do, however, ſupply the inhabitants with the bulk of foreign merchandize.

Holſtein's exports are grain, malt, flarch, rape ſeed, horned cattle, horſes, fiſh, poultry, ſheep, butter, and cheeſe.

As Holſtein partly belongs to Denmark, and partly to the preſent Empreſs of Ruſſia, we ſhall follow Dr. Buſching's method in its deſcription, beginning with what belongs to Denmark.

1. Gluckſtadt is a well built town and fortreſs, in a marſhy ſituation, on the right of the Elbe, in which is a Lutheran, a Calviniſt, and a Romiſh church, and a Jews ſynagogue. It has ſome foreign commerce.

2. Itzehoe has two churches, and ſome charitable foundations; it ſtands on the navigable part of the river Stor, which gives name to that part of Holſtein named Stormar. At this town King Chriſtian VI. inſtituted a college of commerce, in the year 1738.

3. Rendſburg, a town and fort on the river Eyder, of two pariſh churches, and ſix hundred houſes, a royal armory and granary. Here alſo are ſeveral other inconſiderable towns in Wagria county, in a marſhy ſoil.

The ducal, or Ruſſian, Holſtein, Dr. Buſching thinks to be about half as much as Daniſh Holſtein, above deſcribed; yet it brings in a revenue of two hundred thouſand rix-dollars.

1. Kiel, its capital, is ſituated on a Bay of the Baltic, with a convenient harbour. It is a well built populous town, is pretty well frequented by ſhips from Sweden and other parts, has a ducal palace, two churches, a chapel, and univerſity. "The proſperity of this town," ſays Dr. Buſching, "is not a little promoted by the annual meetings of the nobility and perſons of wealth in "Holſtein and Sleſwig, for the transferring, placing out, and re-demanding of their monies; this "pecuniary intercourſe laſting eight days: and at the ſame time alſo is held a conſiderable fair." Kiel was anciently an Hans-town.

In

In Holstein are several Lay-Lutheran convents for ladies, under the direction of Lady Abesses or Prioresses, who still possess all the old privileges of the times of popery, as well as the old revenues and jurisdictions over their villages and farms; being literally more useless drones than even the real nuns of Popish convents.

In Ducal Holstein, there are several other small market towns, of little importance; which therefore we pass over, as well as many villages.

In the county of Pinneberg, which is neither reckoned in Ducal nor Danish Holstein, lies the town of Altona, belonging to Denmark, in a most delightful country, on a high shore of the right of the Elbe, not above a cannon shot from the city of Hamburg. It contains above three thousand houses, and upwards of thirty thousand inhabitants. It has two Lutheran and two Calvinist churches, two Mennonite churches, one French Calvinist church, and one Popish church, beside some other sects, here wisely permitted the free exercise of their religion, as are also the Jews, who are very numerous here, and have a large synagogue; for which, and for their entire protection, they pay the crown two thousand ducats annually. Here is a royal illustrious school, an anatomical theatre, and several charitable foundations. In this sad eye-sore to Hamburg, is a great variety of manufactures and fabrications; three docks for ship building, its trade being very considerable. It was but a village till after the year 1640, when, together with the town and lordship of Pinneberg, it came under the dominion of Denmark, when it soon increased to a town, and, in 1664, it obtained a charter of incorporation. It is said to bring in to that crown a yearly revenue of twenty-seven thousand rix-dollars, more likely to increase than diminish.

There are two noble and free imperial cities still to be described, which, though belonging to neither Danish nor Ducal Holstein, are nevertheless situated within the bounds or compass of that country, viz.

The imperial, free, and Hanseatic city of Hamburg stands on the verge of that part of Holstein called Stormar, about eighteen German, or about seventy-two English, miles from the influx of the great river Elbe into the ocean. That river, the small isles in it being included, is at this city about a German mile in breadth; and, beside its forming two spacious harbours, runs through most part of the city in canals, wherein the ships most conveniently lay before the merchants doors. In these canals, as well as four German miles up that river, above Hamburg, the tide ebbs and flows twice in twenty-four hours: in this respect said to excel all other European rivers. Over those canals are eighty-four bridges, on some of which are houses on each side, as if they were only short cross streets; in this, as well as in other respects, resembling the city of Amsterdam. In the numerous streets and more numerous lanes of this city, many families live together in one house; so that the circuit of this city is by no means proportioned to the number of its inhabitants: for round its ramparts it is but an easy two hours walk, or about six English miles in compass: yet, within that compass, the number of its inhabitants is estimated to be one hundred thousand, exclusive of the many Jews living here, and surely there is nothing extraordinary in all this computation. Mr. Nugent, (in our opinion nearer the mark,) thinks that city contains thirty thousand high houses, and, allowing only six persons to each house on an average, then there should be one hundred and eighty thousand people in Hamburg, including the Jews. On a calculation taken of the inhabitants of Hamburg, says Dr. Busching, compared with those of several other large cities, and made from their registers of births and burials, they are found to be to those of Paris as one is to four;—to those of Amsterdam as four is to seven;—to those of Vienna as eight is to thirteen;—and to those of Copenhagen nearly on a par. Yet after all this, it must be admitted that there is great uncertainty in the exact magnitude, &c. of all great cities.

The

The regulations in this city for preventing of fires,—in point of provision for the poor,—for idiots, lunatics, and for prostitutes, are greatly admired by strangers, as well as its many alms-houses and hospitals,—its schools for the education of poor children,—for providing plenty of all things eatable, in six large market-places,—its store-houses, docks, and yards, for ship-building,—its armory and arsenal, &c.—These are all great in their several kinds, as are also their churches; so that Hamburg is justly esteemed a very well regulated republican constitution, with its small adjacent territory, and as independent as its more potent neighbours will permit it to be. It has, however, one essential mistake in its constitution, (of which mistake its too near neighbour makes considerable advantage) in not admitting the free exercise of religion to any persuasion but their own Lutheran one, excepting at the chapels of foreign ministers, and at our British factory of the Merchants-adventurers Company, which here enjoys many valuable privileges. Near the mouth of the Elbe, Hamburg possesses the bailiwick and castle of Ritzbuttel, with a few adjoining hamlets, and a spacious haven, called Cuxhaven, where, in case of storms, ships find a safe retreat; and on a little fortified island near it, called the Nieuwerk, are beacons and a light-house, for the safety of shipping; and, by the permission of Denmark, they maintain another light-house on the island of Helegland, near the mouth of the Elbe:—By means of that river, Hamburg supplies a very great part of Germany with all kinds of foreign merchandize; by the rivers Havel and Spree, and by a canal from the Spree into the Oder, its commerce is extended from Brandenburg into Silesia, Moravia, Austria, and Poland. This city may be termed the magazine of Germany, and in some measure also of the other countries on the Baltic shore.

Of its numerous manufactures, sugar refining is a principal one; also manufactures of woolen, linen, stockings, cotton, wrought silks, gold-thread, ribbons, velvets, &c. Its vast dealings in wine, tobacco, drugs, spices, metals, grain, leather, timber of many sorts, fish, train-oil, furs, skins, the multitudes of its real merchants and brokers, (Jews as well as Christians) are best to be judged of at their exchange time.

There is a standing commission of merchants, for the examination of commercial concerns, named the commercium, at the place next the exchange, where the commercial library is kept; and if (says Doctor Busching) the books of this library are not very numerous, they are nevertheless all valuable for their usefulness.

The specie-bank was erected in the year 1619, and for its prudent regulations and inviolated credit, is by no means inferior to any, even the most flourishing. Its granaries are always kept well stocked, for supplying the poor at low rates. Here is an illustrious school, with six professors, who read lectures as in Universities, and has a large library. The ordinary military force of the city consists of twelve companies of foot and one troop of dragoons, beside an artillery company, and a nightly guard, which parades, and is stationed every evening, and in the night calls the respective hours. Within the jurisdiction or territory of Hamburg, which is about ten miles in circuit, are several pleasure houses, villages, and estates; and the little town of Bergedorf with the Veerlande, are held in common with Lubec, with which city Hamburg has a communication by a canal to the river Trave.

England supplies Hamburg and other Hans-towns, with immense quantities of wollen goods, tin, lead, tobacco, hard-ware, East India and American productions, &c. according to some, to considerably more than one hundred thousand pounds per annum; whilst others (we doubt too exaggeratingly) carry it much further, even to several hundred thousands. Upon the whole, the commerce of this single city alone may be truly said to surpass that of some considerable kingdoms; and Britain being so eminently interested therein, has occasioned our enlarging so fully upon it.

The

The Lutheran Archbiſhopric of Lubeck lies in that part of Holſtein more anciently named Wagria. The archbiſhop is always elected, by its chapter, either out of the royal family of Denmark, or the ducal family of Holſtein. His place of reſidence is at Eutin, a ſmall town pleaſantly ſeated on a lake; but neither he nor his chapter have any authority in Lubec, although the collegiate church lies within that city. To its chapter, however, belong ſome bailiwicks and villages in their territory.

The free, beautiful and imperial city of Lubec ſtands on the river Trave, which, above the city, receives the Steckenitz, by means whereof it communicates with the river Elbe; and below it, it receives the Wakenitz, iſſuing from the lake of Rattesburg, and joining the Schuartau, in its progreſs, it falls into the Baltic at Travemund, the proper port of Lubec. By means of thoſe ſeveral ſtreams, long and flat-bottomed veſſels paſs from the Baltic along the Trave, the Steckenitz, and the Elbe, into the German ocean.

Lubec is a well fortified city, and though much decayed from its priſtine grandeur, is ſtill rich and potent in ſhipping and commerce. It has about twenty Lutheran churches, with lofty ſteeples, with one Calviniſt and one Romiſh church, a Lutheran nunnery, many hoſpitals, and other charitable foundations. Lubec was anciently (and is ſtill) the head of the Hanſeatic confederacy, where their ſeveral deputies uſed to meet:—and although the great bulk of that confederacy be long ſince diſſolved, yet the remains of it ſtill ſubſiſt in the confederacy of the three cities of Lubec, Hamburg, and Bremen, under the deſignation of the Hanſeatic union:—they negociate commercial treaties with foreign ſtates, and are even in modern treaties, between other potentates, frequently included therein, and had their agent or envoy at the famous treaty of Utrecht, in the year 1713. And the late emperor Francis (according to Dr. Buſching) in his capitulation, (as it is ſtiled) on his acceſſion to the imperial throne, ſolemnly engaged, "To countenance, ſupport, and defend, in their "navigation, traffic, rights, and immunities, according to the *Lithumanum Pacis*, all trading towns "in general, particularly the above-named three cities, from whoſe maritime commerce, the public "reaps ſuch great advantages." Lubeck's above-deſcribed ſituation is extremely commodious for commerce. It has a garriſon of eight hundred men; was the firſt city of the north or middle parts of Europe that erected water-conduits in their ſtreets, with pipes for ſupplying of private houſes therein, which convenience was very early followed by London and other cities. Lubec has alſo divers good manufactures:—amongſt the dependencies of this famous city is Travemund, a ſmall town with a fort, garriſon, and a light-houſe, at the influx of the Trave into the Baltic, beſides ſeveral other bailiwicks and villages, comprehending in its territory, of about ſixty Engliſh miles in circuit: Bergedorf is a ſmall town on the Elbe, belonging (as we have related) in common to Lubec and Hamburg, with a toll-houſe and ferry. Lubec is two miles in length, and one in breadth, and is deemed the neateſt city of all the north parts of Germany. It has a ſtadthouſe, wherein are repoſited the archives of the Hans-towns, an exchange, and an arſenal; and Mr. Nugent thinks it has ſtill one hundred and fifty ſhips of its own, trading to all the ports within the Baltic, &c. of whoſe merchandize they have always here large magazines. The chief home commodity of Lubec is corn, and alſo beer, which is in ſuch great eſteem, that much of it is exported to foreign parts, and is alſo uſed medicinally for wounds and bruiſes.

Above the territory of Hamburg, lies the dutchy of Saxe-Lauenburg, ſubject to the Elector of Hanover. Doctor Buſching thinks it contains thirty-ſix thouſand people, but has no manufactures, and only exports corn, butter and cheeſe, wool, wood for fuel, and ſome fiſh. It has two ſmall towns, viz. Ratzburg, a ſtrong place on an iſland in a lake; and Lauenburg near the Elbe, on which it has ſome trade in corn and wood, with many villages.

In all the dominions of the Electorate of Hanover, there were in the year 1756, computed to be near seven hundred and fifty thousand people, living in fifty-eight cities, sixty market towns, and very many villages, and single farms. In general, its several countries yield plenty of all the necessaries of life; grain and pulse, good fruits, flax, hemp, madder, woad, tobacco, wood, horses, sheep, horned cattle, sulphur, vitriol, marble, stone, coal, iron, lead, copper and silver mines, very rich salt springs, also manufactures of starch and powder, linen, thread, and damask, ribbons, lace, carpets, cotton worked up into gloves, stockings, caps, and dimities; tanned leather, woollen cloths, and stuffs of various kinds, silk manufactures, silver and gold thread, sugar-refineries, glass-houses, paper and powder mills, iron, copper, and brass manufactures, fire arms, wax bleaching; and many other manufactures and productions.

We are next to cross the river Elbe, into the Dutchy of Bremen, and Principality of Verden, subject to the Elector of Hanover; and we shall first survey the free and imperial city of Bremen, the third and least of the still remaining Hans towns.

The city of Bremen lies mostly on the north or right side of the river Weser. "In the year "1744," (according to Doctor Busching) "all its buildings and inhabitants were somewhat re-"markably numbered, whereby its magnitude may be nearly ascertained, viz. In the old and new "towns were counted four thousand seven hundred and seventy-eight inhabited houses, and five "hundred and sixty-five other buildings, such as, meuses, brewhouses, storehouses, &c. also three "hundred and eighty-seven inhabited cellars:—four thousand and ninty-nine married couples; *i. e.* "one thousand five hundred and eighty-nine Calvinists, one thousand seven hundred and seventy-"two Lutherans, six hundred and twenty-nine mixed; eighty-one Papists, and twenty-eight mixed; "two hundred and eighteen widowers; one thousand two hundred and thirty-nine widows; two "hundred and thirty-three single men housekeepers, and three hundred and fifty-nine single women "housekeepers. In the old town, which is the largest and most populous, are four capital Calvinist "churches, as also the cathedral, possessed by the Lutherans; there is also the convent of St. John, "with its church, the celebrated academical gymnasium of the Calvinists, with its spacious library; "the pedagogium, the town-hall, the exchange, the armory; the hospital, with its anatomical "theatre; the correction-house, the work-house, the fulling-mill, &c. In the new town and sub-"urbs are three more Calvinist churches, the Calvinist being the religion of the magistrates, and "consequently the established religion, though in point of numbers the Lutherans nearly equal "them." By this account it is probable, that the city and suburbs of Bremen may nearly contain fifty thousand inhabitants, more or less. They maintain a garrison of about six hundred men:—Here are several good manufactures, and a very considerable foreign commerce; the inhabitants exporting great quantities of strong beer, corn, minerals, pickled and dried salmon, lampreys, wool, great quantities of Osnaburg linens, particularly to England, in return for woollen goods, &c. timber, leather, paving square stones; so that Bremen is now, in the opinion of some, probably the next best port in Germany, after Hamburg, in point of foreign commerce; though others think Stetin and Lubeck may vie with it in that respect. Yet ships of burthen are obliged to lade and unlade at a place three or four German miles further down the Weser. The Elector of Hanover, as sovereign of the dutchy, pronounces sentence in capital cases, with certain ceremonies. To this city belongs a territory, containing many villages, particularly Vegesack, a village having a harbour on the Weser.

The dutchy of Bremen and principality of Verden are, in general, flat, swampy, and level countries, watered on three sides by the ocean, and by the Elbe and Weser, excepting the small bailiwick of Ritsbuttel, subject to Hamburg; and on the east bordering on the dutchy of Lunenburg. Beside

 cordage

cordage and linen, they make several sorts of woollen cloth, flannel, kersies, &c. at Scharmbeck.—At Aumund they have a sugar refinery and a porcelain manufactory. Beside Bremen, here is,

First, The small fortified town of Stade, or Staden, on the river Schwinge; it is about an English mile up from the Elbe, has three churches, and a Latin school, where formerly stood a monastery; yet it is considerably decayed from what it once was.

Second, Buxtehude is at present a small open town near the Elbe, having only one parish church, to which belong three pastors.

The dutchy of Verden, though reckoned within the circle of Westphalia, yet being joined with the dutchy of Bremen, under one Hanoverian Regency, we judged it best to come in here. It is a healthy high land.

Verden is a decayed town, with four churches, on the Aller, and neither it nor the few other towns in this country, nor its many villages, are particularly eminent in a commercial or manufactural sense. What manufactures they have are chiefly linen and thread.

In the principality of Lunenburg-Zell, subject to the Elector of Hanover, are three large towns, viz. Lunenburg, Velsen, and Zell, with eleven smaller, and thirteen burghs, or large villages.

1. Lunenburg, with its fortified capital, has three parish churches, about thirteen hundred houses, and near nine thousand inhabitants, with three hospitals, a princely palace, and town-house, a library, an armory, an house of correction, and an academy. Here are fifty-four salt-houses without its walls, containing two hundred and sixteen pans of salt, each salt-house being estimated at forty thousand rix-dollars annually. Lunenburg exports salt, lime, beer, wax, honey, wool, flax, linen, and frize. Merchandize are brought thither from all parts of Germany, and forwarded eight miles down the river Elmenau, to Hamburg, and also up the river Achse to Lubeck.

2. Velzen, a town on the said river Elmenau, which was navigable from hence to the Elbe; so that ships from England, according to Dr. Busching, formerly traded here, and its ancient harbour is still to be seen: in the great church is also shewn a ship of gilded copper, being a present to the town from the English. It has three churches, and as many alms-houses, though the town is much declined. Its neighbourhood produces very fine flax.—Our author alleges its having acceded to the Hanseatic Confederacy in the year 1451.

3. Zell, a fortified and well-built town on the river Aller, running, lower down, into the Weser, and here begins to be navigable. It contains about fourteen hundred houses, has a town-house, an armory, a ducal palace, several churches, hospitals, and other charitable foundations. Here are manufactures of various kinds, particularly in gold and silver, in good esteem even in other countries.

4. Haarburg, a town of four hundred and seventy-two houses, beside those of the nobility, on a small river running into the Elbe, has a bailiwick and villages, with a fort or castle between it and the Elbe, a parish church, and a Latin school: but it is too near to Hamburg to make any figure in commerce, although an unsuccessful attempt, for that purpose, was made in the reign of King George I. Here is, however, a considerable wax-bleachery, sugar-refinery, a starch-manufactory, and manufactures of ribbons, cottons, stockings, and hats. It has a considerable trade in ship-timber to Holland, and has wool-combing and distillery. Haarburg is indeed very commodiously situated for trade, and for a navigation down the Elbe into the ocean: two passage-boats go every day between it and Hamburg, which city it supplies with many sorts of provisions, it lying opposite to that city. In its fort is a garrison church, a prince's palace, an armory, magazine, barracks, and other buildings.

5. Danneberg, a small and decayed town near the Elbe, beer-brewing being now its only trade.

6. Here we cannot well forget the poor remains of the once great city of Bardewic, on the Elmenau, near to Lunenburg. In the first volume of our work, under the year 1189, we have related its destruction by the great Henry, surnamed the Lion, Duke of Bavaria, Saxony, Brunswick, &c. And although its present condition be very low, yet Dr. Busching thinks its circuit far exceeds that of Lunenburg, although, exclusive of the buildings appertaining to the churches, the school, and the abbey, its other houses are not above one hundred and six in number. It is very ancient, was once a large city, and had nine churches.—Its abbey, upon the Reformation, turned Lutheran; whereupon its canons and vicars became secular, and were confirmed in their possessions.

In this dutchy are many small burghs and villages, wherein great quantities of coarse linen and thread are made, and are sold at Hamburg.

In the principality of Grubenhagen, is its capital,

1. Eimbeck, a strong town on the Ilme, near where it falls into the Leine. Here are manufactures of woollen cloth, and stuffs of many sorts, and dimity, after the Berlin and English manner. It contains seven hundred and fifty-four private houses, and seventy-seven public edifices, beside eight hundred and fourteen granaries, stables, &c. three or four churches, a grammar-school, with seven masters, an orphan-house, an hospital, and two poor-houses; beside a Lutheran cathedral church, with a senior, nine canons, and five vicars.

2. Osterode, a town of five hundred and eighty-two houses, not far from the famous Hartz forest, has a castle, and three parish churches; a large granary for the use of the miners on the Brunswick part of that forest. It is remarkable for its fine woollen cloths, great quantities of iron and copper ore, and a quarry of alabaster.

3. Harzeberg, a large town on the Sieber, having a fine manufactory of arms, and other iron-works, of which great quantities are exported.—Here are also many linen looms.

The Hartz forest is a mountainous track of about fifty English miles in length, and twenty in breadth: but we here only treat of that part of it which belongs to Brunswick and Lunenburg. Its abundance of wood is here the more valuable, as without it the many mines and forges could not subsist. Its minerals are yellow oker, vitriol, sulphur, salt-petre, lapis calaminaris, zink, cobalt, (of which powder-blue is made) lead, borax, iron, copper, brass, silver, and also some gold.—The produce of the mine-works, in or about the year 1724, amounted to about seven hundred and six thousand rix-dollars, gross amount; but the net money coming to the sovereign amounted to but one hundred and thirty-six thousand; and to the other proprietors or sharers, one hundred and twenty thousand; and in the Upper Hartz the sovereign had fifty-three thousand net: and the whole gold in the entire Hartz was two thousand eight hundred and eighty rix-dollars, and in silver, four hundred and twenty-five thousand two hundred and seventy-four rix-dollars, net.—The other products of this uncommon forest, the mine offices at Hanover and Wolfenbuttel take, at a stipulated price, making their returns in tallow, leather, and other necessaries for the mine-works.

The inhabitants of this romantic country consist of miners, labourers in the smelting-houses, wood-hewers, carriers, and the sovereign's officers and servants, with clergy, school-masters, artificers, &c.

1. Clausthal, the chief town of this forest, is a spacious open mine-town, of above nine hundred houses, and ten thousand inhabitants, having two churches, an orphan-house, and grammar-school.

2, 3, 4. Altenau, St. Andreasberg, and Cellerfeld, are smaller mine towns, the two latter, however, containing each about five hundred and fifty houses. In each town is a house for smelting of silver: there are also several smaller smelting-towns in this district.

In the principality of Calenberg is,

I. Gottingen quarter.

Gottingen city contains about one thousand houses, and has one of the best constituted universities in all Germany, first erected by King George II. in the year 1734, by the name of the University of Georgia-Augusta.

This city abounds with fine manufactures of woollen goods, silk and worsted stuffs, ribbons, stockings, leather, &c. but it has sorely suffered by having been twice possessed by French troops.—Here are five parish churches. Since the erection of its university, it has been much embellished with new buildings, its streets finely paved, and in winter illuminated: here also is a Calvinist church, and several charitable foundations. It stands on a canal named the New Leine, which communicates with the river Leine, and ranks as the chief of four larger towns of this principality.

II. The Hanover quarter contains,

1. Hanover, the capital city of the principality of Calenberg, and of the whole electorate. It stands on the left shore of the river Leine, is well fortified, and contains about twelve hundred houses, of which many are palaces, and many more are large and handsome edifices. Here is a fine newly erected electoral palace, in the church of which is kept a treasure of great value, consisting of reliques, gold and silver plate, and gems, collected by the great Duke Henry the Lion, in his journey to the East, in the year 1171, &c. In this city is the Elector's armory, fine stables, &c. and four parish churches, several hospitals, and other charitable foundations; a French Calvinist church, a Romish church, and a Jews synagogue. Here are also abundance of fine manufactures of the woollen, linen, silk, and cotton kinds, and numerous artificers, painters, and other artists of various kinds. Its neighbourhood makes a fine appearance, with the palace and elegant gardens of Herenhausen, beside the many elegant country-seats and pleasant gardens.

3. Nordheim is the third in order, of the four greater towns of this principality, situated on the Ruhme, which runs into the Leine. It contains five hundred houses, and, beside a secularized Lutheran abbey, has one parish church, and some charitable foundations. It also enjoys some manufactures.

III. In the Hamelen and Lauvenau quarter, is,

4. Hamelen, a fortified town on the right of the Weser, being the fourth in rank amongst the four larger towns of the principality of Calenberg. It contains two churches, six hundred burghers houses, beside about fifty ecclesiastical and other public edifices, a French Calvinist church, and several charitable foundations. Here are silk manufactures, stockings, also linen and thread, of which they export a great deal: a secular Lutheran lay-abbey here retains all its ancient estates and prerogatives. Amongst the lesser towns is Munden, on the river Fulda, soon falling into the Weser, containing six hundred and seventy houses, two Lutheran churches, and one Calvinist one; has silk and damask manufactures, vinegar-makers, &c. It has a considerable river navigation and trade on the Fulda and Weser, to and from Cassel, Thuringia, Saxony, Franckfort, &c. Yet so unreasonable are the old monopolies, that none but burghers of Munden must trade or navigate up the Fulda. In this quarter are many smaller towns and villages, in which their chief manufactures are thread and linen, of which they send great quantities to Bremen and Hamburg, for foreign exportation.

These are all the more immediately contiguous territories belonging to the electorate of Hanover.

In the dutchy of Brunswick is the principality of Wolfenbuttel, and also part of the famous Hartz forest, and of the mine and salt-works there, held in common with the Duke of Brunswick-Lunenburg, of which we have already treated sufficiently. The south part is mountainous, but

 with

with great plenty of timber and iron, alſo glaſs-houſes, and a fine porcelain manufacture. The north parts abound in grain, flax, hemp, fruits; and of late raw ſilk has been cultivated by Duke Charles; who, in the year 1750, made a navigable canal between Wolfenbuttel and Brunſwick.

1. The city of Brunſwick is a large fortified place, the capital reſidence of the Sovereign. It ſtands on the river Ocker, has an univerſity erected by Duke Charles, in 1745. Here are many noble ſtructures, and polite as well as charitable foundations and theatres, two gymnaſiums, ten Lutheran churches, one Dutch, one French Calviniſt church, and a Roman Catholic church.—The city has a variety of ingenious artizans, and ſeveral manufactures and fabrications; with two very conſiderable annual fairs. It was of old a principal or head town of the Hanſeatic League, in thoſe times governed in the form of a republic. This city is alſo famous for the liquor called mum, of which, and of tanned leather, they export great quantities.

2. Wolfenbuttel is a conſiderable fortified town, ſtanding on the river Ocker, but in a low and marſhy country, yet contains many handſome houſes. The gymnaſium here is ſtiled the Duke's great ſchool: here is one of the nobleſt libraries in all Europe, ſeveral churches, a caſtle, armory, and ſeveral charitable foundations, with ſome manufactures. Both in Brunſwick and Wolfenbuttel, as well as in many other parts of Lower Saxony, are ſeveral Lutheran ſecularized convents and nunneries, performing no religious offices, though enjoying all their ancient revenues and prerogatives. In this principality are ſeveral iron and braſs founderies, copper flatting-mills, ſalt-works, braſs-wire-works, &c.

3. Helmſtadt, though not eminent for commerce, is famous for its univerſity; has three pariſh churches, and other public and charitable foundations.

The principality of Halberſtadt is ſubject to the King of Pruſſia. It is a level and very fertile country in grain, cattle, ſheep, and flax; here are nearly an equal number of Lutherans, Calviniſts, and Roman Catholics. It contains ſeveral towns, and a great number of burghs and villages. Its woollen manufactures are in a thriving way. This principality, Doctor Buſching thinks, yields to the King of Pruſſia a revenue of about five hundred thouſand rix-dollars.

1. Halberſtadt, its capital, was in times of Popery, an eminent biſhopric; and although its induſtrious lay inhabitants do not at preſent exceed thirteen hundred in number, ſays Doctor Buſching, yet it is plentifully ſupplied with eccleſiaſtics and their retinues, for it has a large cathedral with a dean, a ſenior, ſixteen canons, four of which are Popiſh, and the reſt are Lutherans, eight minor canons, and twenty-two clerks; ſixteen churches, of which four are Lutheran collegiate ones, and moſt of the reſt are alſo Lutheran; one German, and one French Calviniſt church.—Here are three Popiſh convents of monks, and two nunneries; alſo a Jewiſh ſynagogue, and many ſchools and charitable foundations. In the year 1758, the French treated this place in their wonted manner, by demoliſhing moſt of its walls and gates. Of its commerce little can be ſaid, excepting what manufactures have been introduced by the French refugees, being ſuch as they have propagated in the other Brandenburg dominions.

2. Aſcherſleben forms the ſecond ſtate town of this principality, having three churches, one of which is uſed by both the Lutherans and Calviniſts.

3. And Oſterwic, on the river Ilſe, is its third municipal town; and has ſeveral woollen manufactures.

The Dutchy of Magdeburg contains twenty-nine cities, ſix towns, and four hundred and thirty-one villages, and yields a revenue of above eight hundred thouſand rix-dollars to his Pruſſian Majeſty. Its chief places are,

1. The

1. The ancient and still noble city of Magdeburg, on the Elbe, is one of the principal trading cities of Germany, as also a very strong and capital fortress. It is well built, and its cathedral square is so ornamented with large and elegant houses as to make a grand appearance. In it is the King's palace, the Lutheran cathedral, three collegiate Lutheran churches, and six other Lutheran parochial churches, and a Lutheran lay-convent; three Calvinist churches, viz. a German, French, and Walloon one, an hospital, alms and orphan house, maintained at the King's expence; an armory and a town house. In this city is a considerable variety of manufactures, much propagated and improved by the French refugees kindly received here in great numbers, viz. all sorts of woollen cloths and stuffs, whole and half silk stuffs, cotton, linen, stockings, hats, fine gloves, tobacco, and snuffs, and immense quantities of salt works. Its situation on the Elbe, and being the road between Lower and Higher Germany, are very advantageous to its commerce, here being great magazines of various merchandize brought hither up the Elbe in flat bottomed vessels from Hamburg, and from hence carried over land to Leipzig and other parts; on the other hand, there are vast quantities of timber brought hither down the Elbe for Hamburg. This, in short, is one of the best and most beneficial provinces of the King of Prussia.

2. Burg is a town with four churches, and some good woollen manufactures.

3. Hall, on the river Saale, is a fortified city, containing fourteen thousand inhabitants, beside its garrison and noted university; having three Lutheran, and two Calvinist churches, a Romish chapel, and a Jews synagogue; a Lutheran and a Calvinist gymnasium, each having a library, a free secular nunnery of Calvinist ladies The Calvinists here are possessed of two hospitals, an alms house for the French Calvinists, and other charity foundations. Here are various manufactures, as cloths, woollen, and silk stockings, gloves, printed flannels, frizes, fustians, porcelain, Hungary water, starch, powder, gold, silver, and silk ribbons, fine red and yellow Turkey leather, pewter buttons, &c. salt springs, from which vast quantities are exported to many parts.

Glaucha, just without its walls, is chiefly famous for its celebrated orphan-house, founded by the famous and pious Doctor Franke, near the close of the last century, of which much has been published in various languages.

In the bishopric of Hildesheim is much flax, hops, and salt, and also iron founderies. All its towns, and most of its nobility and villages, are Lutheran, as, on the other hand, the sovereign-bishop, the chapter, the convents, and almost all the episcopal officers, part of the nobility, towns and country, are Catholics. Here are but few manufactures, excepting some good linen, and some coarse woollen, stockings, and porcelain, with all kinds of iron wares. It exports corn, wool, timber, linen, thread, salt, hops, &c.

1. Hildesheim is a considerable large city; and although its magistrates and most of its burghers be Lutherans, yet in it is a college of Jesuits, an abbey, a great cathedral and chapter, with six convents, here are however eight Lutheran parish churches, and a Lutheran gymnasium, also a Jewish synagogue. The city was the capital residence of the great Duke Henry the Lion, from whom the Brunswic family is descended, and the Elector of Brunswic still retains the hereditary patronage of it, and, as such, keeps in this city a company of foot soldiers, though paid by the city, which acknowledges the Bishop for its sovereign, but pays him no homage, neither does he ever reside here. The other towns are inconsiderable.

The principality of Blankenburg lies partly in the Hartz forest, and belongs to the Duke of Brunswick-Wolfenbuttel. without that forest, it has good corn land, and in the forest fine marble, woods, and iron ore.

1. The

1. The imperial city of Goslar lies on the river Gose, running into the Ocker, near Hartz forest. It has four Lutheran parish churches, and three Lutheran convents. Its chief support is from the neighbouring mines, and for supplying of beer and other provisions to that forest.

The imperial city of Mulhausen, in Thuringia, lies on the river Unstrut, it has two Lutheran churches, a Popish nunnery, and a small district in the country.

The imperial city of Nordhausen, in Thuringia, contains seven Lutheran churches, a Romish convent, and an orphan-house. It carries on a good trade in corn to the Hartz forest, distils great quantities of brandy, and is noted for its curious works in marble and alabaster.

The circle of Westphalia is very extensive, and, like most other countries, of various soils; some parts are very fertile, whilst others are barren, heathy, and mountainous. It contains several good cities and towns, and a vast number of burghs and villages.

1. Paderborn is a very ancient and neat city and university, in a fertile neighbourhood. It has a large territorial bishopric. The city contains a cathedral and two parish churches, an abbey, a Jesuits college, and five convents. It formerly carried on a great trade, but at present it is much decayed; what they have is chiefly of the linen kind. The other places of this bishopric are inconsiderable.

The very large bishopric of Munster contains many towns, burghs, and villages, and is much employed in the linen manufactures. Its extent is about one hundred miles in length and sixty in breadth, and revenue near three hundred thousand rix-dollars to the Bishop.

1. Munster, its capital city, near the river Ems, is a very large walled city, much more eminent for its great number of churches, abbies, cloisters, and other ecclesiastical foundations, than for commerce or manufactures; so that its vast number of ecclesiastics, with their dependents, is alone sufficient to constitute a large city, as it truly is; being thought to contain near one hundred thousand people.

2. Coesfeldt is the next best town in this bishopric; has two parish churches, a Jesuits college, and five convents. It was of old a Hans-town; but now much decayed.

The bishopric of Liege, although by many reckoned in the Austrian Netherlands, wherein we have in part treated of it, for contiguity's sake, lies within the circle of Westphalia. It has a fertile soil, and in some parts of it yields wines resembling the middling sort of wines of Champagne and Burgundy; and has also considerable mine works of iron, copper, and lead, and yields pit coal and marble. It is the third in rank of the great Westphalian bishoprics. It is subject to its own elective Bishop and Prince; who, according to Morery, claims a right or sovereignty over fifty-two baronies, eighteen walled towns, and four hundred villages.

1. Liege, in Dutch named Luyck, its capital, is a very large and well fortified city, on the left of the river Maese, contains a cathedral, seven collegiate and thirty-two parish churches, five abbies for men, and a like number for women, thirty-two cloysters of both sexes, two colleges of Jesuits, now changed into seminaries, &c. ten hospitals, beside other charitable foundations. The manufactures here are very considerable, consisting of serges and other stuffs; all sorts of military weapons, nails, and leather; great numbers of brewers, its beer being much exported all round the country; there is pit coal in its neighbourhood, with which they supply Holland very much.

2. Huy, on both sides the Maese, has a large collegiate church, several chapels, numerous convents, and some hospitals. It has iron works, and paper mills in its neighbourhood, which yields corn, wine, alum, sulphur, and pit coal.

3. Dinant, higher up the Maese, is fortified; has eight churches, six cloisters, a college which formerly belonged to the Jesuits, and some hospitals. Its principal trade is in leather.

The bishopric of Osnaburg, or Osnabruck, lies north of that of Munster, between the rivers Weser and Ems, being, according to Moll, about forty-five English miles in length, and twenty-five in breadth. It consists of heath lands, but little wood; affording salt, pit coal, and much marble. The people are chiefly employed in spinning of linen yarn and thread, and the manufacture of vast quantities of coarse linen, bearing the corrupt name of Osnabrigs, to the value, according to Dr. Busching, of above a million of rix-dollars annually; sold to the English, Dutch, and Spaniards, for their Guinea and West India commerce.

The city of Osnaburg is a neat well built place. Here are some coarse woollen manufactures, and a very great linen trade; here are also the best Westphalia hams. Its private houses are about one thousand two hundred in number, beside many fine public edifices; a cathedral and a collegiate church, a college belonging formerly to the Jesuits; and two Lutheran churches, two convents, and several hospitals or alms houses. The revenue of its Bishop is reckoned between twenty and thirty thousand pounds sterling.

The principality of Minden is subject to his Prussian Majesty. It abounds in grain, flax, and pit coal, and exports much coarse linen and linen yarn, makes linsey-woolsey cloth; has soap and sugar houses, breweries and distilleries. Under this principality are comprehended the counties of Ravensberg, Lingen, and Tecklenburg, which are great linen countries.

At the city of Minden is an ancient cathedral church, (believed to have been the palace of Duke Wittikind, conquered by the Emperor Charlemagne) two Popish and four Protestant churches, some Popish cloisters and charitable foundations. Here is a stocking manufacture, beside the more considerable ones of linen, thread, &c. above specified.

The dutchy of Verden, though within this circle, is already named next to that of Bremen, in Lower Saxony, for a reason there exhibited.

The dutchy of Cleves, belonging to the King of Prussia, has a rich soil, abounding in corn, cattle, &c. and its people are industrious and much given to trade, like their near neighbours of the United Netherlands, which is much advanced by the navigation on the Rhine and Maese.

Cleves is a moderately large town, containing five churches and three convents: and some years since established a silk manufacture: but,

Wesel is the largest and strongest town of this dutchy: has several Popish and Protestant churches and convents. It has some commerce, being commodiously situated for that end, on the east side of the Rhine.

The county of Mark, subject to the King of Prussia, has a most fertile soil; abounds in grain, pulse, flax, hemp, iron, salt, coals, lead, copper, and some silver ore.

1. Ham, is its capital town, moderately large, having three churches. It is famous for its fine linen bleacheries.

2. Altena, the largest town in this county, deals much in iron and wire.

3. Iserlon, or also simply named Lon, is a place of good trade, though in a mountainous country; having five churches. Its manufactures are various sorts of works of iron, and of brass wire, needles, balance beams, buckles, woollen stuffs, and small silk manufactures.

In this county are several lesser towns and many villages; whose inhabitants are much employed in iron works, and some in coarse woollen cloths.

The

The dutchies of Juliers, or Gulick, and Berg, subject to the Elector Palatine, have generally a fruitful soil, with much corn and wood; and their excellent horses are exported to France and other countries: linen are also made here, known by the name of Gulicks.

Juliers, or Gulick, the capital of the first-named dutchy, has three churches. And here we may observe, that all the last-named dutchies and counties are almost equally intermixed with Popish, Lutheran, and Calvinist churches.

The dutchy of Berg is generally mountainous, intermixed with many fruitful spots toward the Rhine; yielding some wine. Here are great quantities of timber, iron and other ores, and pit coal.

Dusseldorp, or Dusseldorf, is the best town in this dutchy. It is not large; but is strong and populous. It stands on the Rhine, and sends much corn down that river: is intermixed with Popish and Protestant churches, has a college and some convents, formerly belonging to the Jesuits.

In this dutchy are many small towns, and numerous villages, wherein are carried on manufactures of coarse linen and woollen, and also metallic works.

The imperial city of Aix la Chapelle, in Dutch named Acken, lies between the dutchies of Juliers and Limburg; and is a large and beautiful city. It was formerly, and for a long time, reckoned the principal city of the empire, and the usual residence of its emperors, having to this day the custody of part of the jewels of the empire, which are used at the coronation of the Emperors, which coronations were formerly solemnized here; where also Charlemagne's sword is kept. Here are thirty churches, twenty-one convents, and many charitable foundations. The city's territory is called the Kingdom of Aix la Chapelle, lying quite round it, and containing about two hundred villages. In the city and its territory are many manufactures of cloth, and of copper and brass. Although there are many Protestants in this city, they are not permitted the public exercise of their religion, but, like Cologne and some other places, are obliged to go an hour's journey for that end. Here are rich mines of lead, vitriol, sulphur, coals, and calamy stone. It is under the protection of the Elector Palatine as Duke of Juliers. Its mineral fountains draw hither a great concourse of people from all parts.

The town and small principality of Meurs abounds in corn, cattle, and venison, and belongs to the King of Prussia; and is environed with the dutchies of Berg and Cleves.

Meurs, its only town, is fortified, but in no other respect eminent.

The Electorate and Archbishopric of COLOGNE.

Its countries lie not contiguous, nor all of them in this circle; but are, many of them, separated from each other by foreign territories. The principal and longest or furthest connected part of it lies on and near the Rhine, which river separates it from the dutchy of Berg, and is above twenty German, or eighty English, miles in length.

1. The country properly called the dutchy of Westphalia, which is about ten German miles in length and eight in breadth, is for the most part subject to the Elector of Cologne, beside several other lesser proprietors of baronies, &c. But, although it has twenty-five smaller towns, and ten burghs or market towns, there seems to be no one place in it of any great consequence in respect to commerce or manufactures.

2. The imperial city of Cologne on the Rhine is one of the largest cities of Germany; containing a grand cathedral, ten collegiate churches, nineteen parish churches, and about fifty chapels, four abbies,

abbies, seventeen monasteries, thirty-nine nunneries, and sixteen hospitals. It is the principal staple for Rhenish wines, and was of old a principal and impotant member of the Hanseatic Confederacy: and although it continues shamefully to force its numerous Protestant inhabitants to resort to Mulheim, in its neighbourhood, for the exercise of their religious worship, (by which bigotry, we have shewn, under the year 1688, they have so greatly thinned their inhabitants;) yet, through the happiness of its situation, they have still some manufactures of ribbons, ferrets, &c. and a considerable trade down the Rhine to Holland; although, for the above reason, it is become little better than a mere city of ecclesiastics and ecclesiastical edifices; and on that account, and from the multitude of the reliques of Saints, has obtained the appellation of the Holy City; some travellers having related, that there are in it as many churches and chapels as there are days in the year. It swears allegiance to every new Elector, so long as he continues to protect them in their just rights, privileges, and immunities.

The imperial city of Dortmund lies within the county of Mark; and contains four Lutheran churches, three convents, and an archi-gymnasium or illustrious school. It was formerly a Hans-town. Its territories has several villages and hamlets subject to it.

The county of Scauenburg, on the Weser, belongs partly to Hesse, partly to Lunenburg, and partly to the Count of Buckebuig; of which little more needs or rather can be said.

The counties of Oldenburg and Delmenhorst belong to the crown of Denmark. They lie near the south side of the Weser.—The town of Oldenburg is fortified, and has three churches; and Delmenhorst, though small, is yet fortified: but here is nothing eminent, in a commercial sense.

The county of Lippe, subject to its own Count, is partly surrounded by the Bishopric of Paderborn; within which, nevertheless, lies the county of Sternberg, subject to the Elector of Brunswick Lunenburg; wherein much linen is made.

1. Lemgow, its best town, has three Protestant churches: also some woollen manufactures: but, though it was formerly a Hans-town, it is now somewhat decayed.

2. Lipstadt, though giving name to this county, is a strong town, subject to the King of Prussia, and carries on a good trade in preparing timber for building vessels on the Rhine; with which river it has a communication by the river Lippe, on which it is seated.

The county of Bentheim belongs to its own Protestant Prince, and adjoins westward on the Netherland province of Overyssel. It is pleasant and fertile. Its people trade in yarn, linen, wool, honey, cattle, wood, and stone; chiefly transported to Holland.

Bentheim, its chief town, is a pretty large burgh, containing two churches.

The principality of East Friesland, subject to the King of Prussia, lies in a low and moist air, much resembling its near neighbouring Netherland provinces; having fat and rich pasture lands for the breeding of large cattle, oxen, and sheep. Many of its horses are carried to Rome, and there sold at high prices for coaches. It also has fine linen manufactures.

Embden, its capital, is a large and strong sea-port, of considerable commerce, on the river Ems; having several parish churches, and an Asiatic or East India Company, erected in the year 1750, by his present Prussian Majesty.

In this principality are two other towns, several burghs, and many villages; but all the trade thereof centers in Embden.

The counties and towns of Tecklenburg and Lingen, subject to his Prussian Majesty, lie next to the Bishopric of Osnaburg. They abound in corn and cattle, pit-coal and stone, as well as in large manufactures of linen, well known by the name of Tecklenberg linen.

Lingen is a town of three Calvinist parish churches, and is the best town here; but the Roman Catholics being numerous here and in other neighbouring parts, his late Prussian Majesty, Frederic-William granted them a limited toleration.

Ravensberg, a county likewise subject to the King of Prussia, lies surrounded with the Bishoprics of Munster and Paderborn. Most of the people are employed in the spinning, weaving, and bleaching of fine and coarse linen, sent all over Europe, and also to America.

1. Bielfield, its chief town, contains four churches of different persuasions, a chapel, convent, some charitable foundations, and about eight hundred private houses. This place has a very great linen manufacture, and likewise some manufactures of woollen cloths, stuffs, and stockings. It was once a Hans-town.

2. Herford is likewise a good town, nearly as large as the other. There are several other burghs and villages in this county, principally employed in the growing of flax, and in the manufacture of linen.

The county of Hoy, near the river Weser, belonging to the Elector of Hanover, is much employed in the linen manufacture. Its capital, Hoy, contains one parish church and a citadel.

The small adjoining county of Diepholtz is also much occupied in the linen manufacture; and is likewise subject to the Elector of Hanover.

Diepholtz, its principal town, is a large burgh; and there are here several other lesser towns and many villages.

The small county of Spiegelberg belongs to the Prince of Orange, Stadtholder of the United Netherlands; under the superiority of the Elector of Hanover. But it is no way eminent for commerce, any more than the county and town of Rietberg, near the former county, belonging to Count Kaunitz-Rietberg.

The small county of Pyrmont, next to the territory of Hanover, belongs to the Prince of Waldeck, who hereby enjoys a revenue of thirty thousand rix-dollars, or six thousand seven hundred and fifty pounds sterling; arising principally from its excellent mineral springs and salt-works.

Pyrmont, its only town, has nothing in it relating to our subject; but its citadel is reckoned strong. Here are a few villages in this county.

The principality of Nassau Siegen belongs to the Prince of Orange, to whom it yields a revenue of one hundred thousand rix-dollars, or twenty-two thousand five hundred pounds sterling. It is very woody and mountainous; though it has some good arable lands, and numerous iron-works. Iron forges and its manufactures constitute the principal trade of this county, and of its capital town of Siegen and its villages.

The principality of Nassau-Dillenburg lies next to the former, and is also subject to the Prince of Orange. It contains five towns and two burghs, beside villages; and is also much the same in point of soil and productions as the former. Here are many iron forges, copper and lead mines, also some silver and vitriol.

Its chief town, Dillenburg, is fortified; contains but one church, two princely palaces, and a large park. This county is said to yield a revenue of about one hundred and sixty thousand German florins, which, at two shillings and four pence each, amounts to twenty-one thousand three hundred and thirty-three pounds sterling.

The small county and town of Nassau-Hadamar belongs likewise to the Prince of Orange, with some other small towns and villages: but neither Dr. Busching, nor any other author we know of, has acquainted us with the revenue of this county, which, probably, may therefore be but inconsiderable.

The Circle of the Lower Rhine.

It confifts of part of the eftates of the three Spiritual or Ecclefiaftical Electors—of the Duke of Aremberg—of the Elector Palatine—of the Prince of Taxis, and others.

The lands of the Elector of Mentz afford much and excellent Rhenifh wine, corn, falt, iron mines, almonds, chefnuts, flax, and tobacco; and manufactures of woollen ftuffs, linen, glafs, and porcelain.

1. Mentz, its capital city, is fituated on the Rhine where the river Maine falls into it; it is a ftrong and populous old-fafhioned city, with a lofty cathedral, feven collegiate churches, feven parifh churches, a college, fixteen convents, fix hofpitals, a work-houfe, and an univerfity.—It is a place of great trade, more efpecially in wines: having alfo manufactures of ftuffs and ftockings.

2. Afchaffenburg, one of the beft towns in this archbifhopric, is the ufual refidence of the Elector for part of the fummer feafon, in the citadel.

3. The city and territory of Erfurt, in Thuringia, already defcribed under Upper Saxony, where it is fituated.

4. The country of Eichsfeld produces corn, cattle, flax, and tobacco; and manufactures great quantities of ferge and linen. It contains four towns and one hundred and fifty villages.

Duderftadt, its beft town, is known for beer-brewing, and dealing in tobacco, &c.

5. Bonn, upon the Rhine, is a town and fortrefs, being the ufual refidence of the Elector of Cologne, though not in the circle of Weftphalia. It is not large, but has many good houfes in it. Here are feveral cloifters, three churches, and a college. It is not eminent for commerce, though fo happily fituated: becaufe of its being, in time of war with France, too much expofed.

Andernach, Rens, &c. are fmall but ftrong towns, likewife fituated on the Rhine. And we may here remark, for the information of fome readers, that in Dr. Bufching's and other defcriptions of towns in Germany, the word Town generally is to be underftood to mean a walled and fortified place, and not an open borough.

In the Lower Archbifhopric of Cologne is Nuys, or Neufz, a fmall fortified town near the Rhine, carrying on a brifk trade in deal boards and pit-coal.

The Palatinate of the Rhine, or the country of the Elector Palatine, otherwife known by the name of the Lower Palatinate, to diftinguifh it from that called the Upper Palatinate, in the circle of Bavaria, produces good corn, fruits, good Neckar and Rhenifh wines; fine pafturage, cattle, and tobacco.

1. Manheim is the modern place of refidence of the Elector Palatine. It is a ftrong fortrefs, near the influx of the Neckar into the Rhine; and is now become one of the fineft towns in Germany. In it is one Popifh church, a college, two Proteftant Calvinift churches, two convents, and a Jews fynagogue. There are alfo feveral good manufactures.

2. Heidelberg is the ancient principal town of this electorate; although, through many grievous misfortunes, and more efpecially by the barbarous ravages of the French, it is now but fmall, though fince finely rebuilt. It contains feveral churches, for Romanifts, Calvinifts, and Lutherans, a college and church, formerly belonging to the Jefuits; alfo fix cloifters. Many other of the good towns of this country were fo miferably ravaged by Count Tilly, the Imperial General, in the former part of the feventeenth century, and by the French towards the latter part of that century, that they have not as yet been able to recover their former happier condition: in moft of which towns the three religions have churches. Here fine Mufcadel wines are produced; and therein are

ſome manufactures. In this palatinate alſo is the principality of Aremberg, and of Tour and Taxis; the ſeignory of Beilſtein, belonging to Naſſau-Orange Dietz; the county of Lower Iſenburg, and the burgravate of Reineck.

The Elector Palatine's annual revenue is eſtimated at three hundred thouſand pounds ſterling. The Palatinate is about one hundred Engliſh miles in length, and from fifty to ſeventy miles in breadth; and is one of the moſt fruitful and pleaſant provinces in Germany.

The Dominions of the Archbiſhopric and Electorate of Trier, or Treves, are moſtly mountainous and woody, yet in many parts there is good arable land; and it produces vaſt quantities of Moſelle wines. This archbiſhopric has been greatly abridged by the conqueſts of France.

1. Treves, on the Moſelle, its capital city, has a cathedral, three collegiate and five pariſh churches, three colleges, thirteen convents, and an univerſity: but it being ſo much at the mercy of France, whenever that reſtleſs people think it for their intereſt to invade Germany, no conſiderable commerce can be expected in it.

2. In the Lower Archbiſhopric ſtands the ſtrong town of Coblentz, near the confluence of the Moſelle into the Rhine. It contains three churches, a college, and ſeven convents. The fort named Ehrenbreitſten, oppoſite to Coblentz, is deemed the important key to the rivers Rhine and Moſelle, and conſequently to the trade in wines, &c. on thoſe two rivers. Here are many ſmall towns, burghs, and villages, held in common by the Elector of Treves and the Prince of Naſſau-Dietz; in which parts they raiſe much flax, and dig up much copper and ſome ſilver.

We have not met with any computation of the revenue of the Electorate: but we apprehend, for the above reaſon, that it is the leaſt conſiderable of the three eccleſiaſtical electors.

The circle of the Upper Rhine, has had almoſt all its territories and ſtates on the other ſide of the Rhine gradually raviſhed from the German empire by France, viz. the greateſt part of the Biſhoprics, and their reſpective metropolitan cities of Straſburg, Metz, Toul, Verdun; the Archbiſhopric of Bezancon, the Dutchy of Lorrain, at firſt reckoned in this circle, but afterward annexed to the circle of Burgundy; the princely abbies of Murbach and Munſter, the county of Bitch, and the land-vogtey of Hagenau, which comprized the ten ancient imperial cities of Alſace.

Nevertheleſs, this circle has ſtill remaining to it many noble and fine territories:

1. Of the biſhoprics of Worms, Spire, Straſburg, and Baſil, all on or near the Rhine, and the Provoſtſhip of Weiſſenburg, nothing material relating to our general ſubject can be ſaid.

2. That of the Biſhopric and Abbey of Fulda lies next to Heſſe.

Fulda, a fortified town, lies on the river Fulda, of which we can ſay nothing further conſiderable than that it has an abbey, a palace for the biſhop, two or three churches, a college, an univerſity, and a nunnery; and ſeveral ſmall adjacent burghs and villages. And much the ſame may be obſerved of the Principality of Heiterſheim—the Abbey of Prum—the Priory of Odenheim—the Dutchies of Simmeren and Lauteren—and the counties of Veldenes and Lautereck; only that there is here to be found excellent wines; and the like may be ſaid of the Dutchy of Deux-Pons, or Zweybrucken, its German name.

The two landgravates of Heſſe are in a great meaſure hilly and woody, intermixed with fruitful vallies, abounding with excellent cattle and corn, and in ſome parts with good wine, with mines of ſilver, copper, iron, lead, alum, vitriol, ſalt-ſprings, pit-coal, ſulphur, marble, and alabaſter. Here are manufactures of cloth of gold, of linen and woollen cloth, ſtockings, hats, paper, gloves, &c. more eſpecially at Caſſel, which has alſo a fine porcelain manufacture.

Heſſe-Caſſel, or Lower Heſſe, is Calviniſt, and is the largeſt and moſt powerful; its annual revenue being reckoned at one hundred and twenty thouſand pounds ſterling.

 1. Caſſel,

1. Caffel, its capital, on the river Fulda, contains five churches; and befide the before-named manufactures, has a manufactory of brafs and copper. The new town was built, and is principally inhabited by French refugees, who introduced feveral manufactures there, efpecially of the woollen kinds.

2. Marpurg, in Upper Heffe, is its capital, and is a noted Calvinift Univerfity; has four Calvinift churches.

3. In the Wettereau lies the county and town of Catzenelbogen; with good agriculture, fome wine, and woollen manufactures.

4. Rhinfels, a ftrong fortrefs on the Rhine.

The Landgrave of Heffe Darmftadt is of the Lutheran perfuafion. He poffeffes a fine country, abounding in excellent wines, fruits, and corn: here are alfo fome woollen manufactures.

1. Darmftadt, its capital, on the Lahn, is fortified. It has but one church, and therefore cannot be large. Here is alfo the Prince's palace, and fome charity foundations.

2. Gieffen, a fortified town on the river Lahn, with an univerfity and two Lutheran churches.

3. Hirchfeld, contains a cathedral, a town church, a palace, an hofpital well endowed, and an illuftrious fchool or gymnafium.

4. Philipfthal is only to be here mentioned as being the refidence of an appendage branch of the houfe of Heffe-Caffel.

The revenues of the Landgrave of Heffe Darmftadt, are faid to amount to one hundred thoufand pounds fterling.

Trarbach, on the Mofelle, is a fief of the Elector of Triers; was once a good fort, till difmantled by the French. It has one parifh church, which is ufed in common by Papifts and Lutherans.

The principalities and houfe of Naffau lie in the country called the Wetterau; which though moftly woody and mountainous, has neverthelefs fine arable and meadow lands.

The county of Naffau Dietz lies on the Lahn; and, for its great fertility, is called the Golden Country. It is a fief of the Elector of Triers.

1. Dietz, on the Lahn, has two Calvinift churches, and one for Lutherans.

2. Naffau is a fmall town on the Lahn, having but one parifh church, common to both Calvinifts and Lutherans.

3. The county of Naffau Weilburg has a filver, a copper, and an iron mine work.

Weilburg is a handfome town on the Lahn.

The county of Naffau-Saarbruk-Ufingen, on the Saar, contains,

1. Wifbaden, a handfome, populous, and thriving town, chiefly arifing from its celebrated warm baths, and its being the feat of the regency.

2. Saarbruck, on the Saar, is a fmall town, with one Calvinift and one Lutheran church; with a church and fchool erected for the ufe of the Calvinifts at Saarbruck, who, for the quiet enjoyment of their religion, retired out of France, Lorrain, &c.

The ancient county of Waldeck belongs to its own Prince; it lies fouth of Heffe, and abounds in grain, cattle, and in mines of iron, lead, copper, and fome gold, equal in goodnefs to that of Hungary.

1. Corbach is its principal town, having two Calvinift churches.

2. Waldeck is a little town, with fome fortifications.

With feveral other fmall burghs and villages.

The fine county of Hanau-Munzenberg lies in the Wetterau, near Frankfort on the Maine, along which it moftly lies. It is fubject to the Landgrave of Heffe Caffel; and is remarkably fertile in

excellent

excellent grain, wines, and fruits: it has a silver and a copper mine, and some salt-works. It contains five towns, and ninety-six villages.

Hanau, its fortified capital town, has an university, a palace, one Calvinist and one Lutheran church, in the old town. The new town was entirely raised, about the year 1597, by the Protestant Walloons, or Flemish refugees, to whom great encouragement was given for their settling in this country, having therein a French and a Dutch church; and where they have introduced several kinds of woollen manufactures, grograms, silk and worsted stockings, callicoes, and porcelain. Here is a wax bleachery, and a tobacco-roll manufacture. This town deals much in timber brought down the Maine, in rough and cast iron, meal and corn. Trade and manufactures flourish here very much, because every one has full liberty to trade at pleasure: the jews, in this flourishing town, live in a particular quarter of it; and are allowed schools for the education of their children. This freedom from the restraints of exclusive and monopolizing corporations and communities, is the glory as well as the enriching of this and such other places, whose sovereigns have wisdom and foresight sufficient to see their true interests, in point of commerce, wealth, and power.

The lordship of Hanau-Lichtenberg lies mostly in Upper Alsace, and therefore unhappily brought under the yoke of France; what part of it stills remains to the empire, is subject to Hesse-Darmstadt, consisting only of a few villages.

The principality of Solms, the county of Konigstein, and of Upper Ysenburg, all lie in the Wetterau, near the Rhine and the Maine; but contain nothing very particular to our purpose, respecting either commerce or manufactures, excepting very good wines. Yet such of them as are Protestants having admitted some of the French refugees to settle with them, certain French manufactures have been consequently introduced. It would be to small purpose to describe, by name, all the lordships and small independencies of the country of the Wetterau, and some other parts of this circle, as of very little importance to our principal object.

Yet we must remark, that the imperial city of Worms, near the Rhine, after having been destroyed by the French in the year 1689, has been mostly rebuilt with advantage. It is a free state of the empire: its magistrates are Lutheran; but the Papists have the cathedral, with four collegiate and four parish churches, a college and gymnasium, also six convents. Here are three Lutheran churches, and three for the Calvinists. In its vicinity grows the delicious Rhenish wine, which, for its excellence, has the appellation of, Our Lady's Milk.

The imperial city of Spire takes its name from a small river falling into the Rhine a little lower. It was most barbarously destroyed by the French in the year 1689, and laid waste till after the peace of Ryswick, when it was begun to be rebuilt. The choir of its cathedral, says Dr. Busching, "is "beautifully repaired. But the superb marble monuments of eight emperors and three empresses "here, were broken in pieces by the French, who opened and pillaged the vaults, and threw about "the bones of the illustrious dead'" Spire is one of the original imperial cities. Beside the cathedral, here are several popish churches, a college, and several convents and nunneries. The Lutheran out-number all its other inhabitants, have two churches and a gymnasium, and its magistrates are also Lutheran: yet it pays homage to its Bishop upon every new accession; and, in return, he binds himself not to infringe its liberties.

The imperial city of Friedberg, in the Wetterau, stands in a very fertile country, though it is now much decayed, as is also the case of the most part of the other imperial German cities, yet it is still a free Lutheran town, but is not at present eminent for commerce.

The free imperial town of Wetzlar, lies also in the Wetterau; its magistrates, and most of its burghers, are Lutherans. Yet the principal church is in common for both Papists and Lutherans.

The

The Papists also have a convent, a college, and a church. The Lutherans have two other churches, and the Calvinists have one church. Hither, in the year 1693, was removed from Spire, for the reason to be seen under the then condition of that city, the imperial chamber, ever since held in the town-house of Wetzlar.

The circle of Franconia contains,

1. The free and imperial city of Franckfort, on both sides of the Maine, is justly celebrated for its commerce. It contains about three thousand houses, and many fine palaces belonging to various princes and lords, beside three squares.—It is the usual place of the election and coronation of a King of the Romans. In the fair time, lasting three weeks, twice in the year, here are toy shops under the arches of the town-house; and over those arches is the hall where the Emperor usually dines on his coronation day.—Amongst the archives, in the town-house, is kept the famous Golden Bull of the Emperor Charles IV. being a parchment book of forty-three quarto leaves, containing the fundamental institutes of the empire: it is kept in a casket of gold, and may be termed the Magna Charta of Germany, written in Latin capitals.—This city has an exchange for merchants.—The magistrates and other city officers are Lutherans, that being esteemed there the established religion, but, although the Calvinists traders are numerous here, they are so uncharitable as not to allow them a church within their city; wherefore they are obliged to go a little way out of town, (says Dr. Busching) but, according to Mr. Nugent, three miles off, to a village named Bockonheim, in the county of Hanau, for their public worship.—Most of the best churches, with the cathedral, are possessed by the Roman Catholicks, who likewise have several convents here. There are, however, several Luthran churches, and two Lutheran nunneries for ladies of quality, a Lutheran gymnasium or university, and a seminary for Lutheran divines: also a city library, several hospitals, and other charitable foundations.

The convenient situation of Frankfort, in so fine and rich a part of Germany, and its two celebrated annual fairs for all kinds of merchandize, and remarkably so for printed books in all languages, renders it, in point of traffic, one of the principal places in Germany. Mr. Keysler, in his travels, in the years 1730, &c. thinks, that ten millions of rix-dollars would hardly purchase the merchandize exposed to sale at one of those fairs. Its silk manufactures are very considerable; here are also manufactures of tobacco and porcelain. This city has a territory round it, containing one walled town, and several villages, seats, and farms, where great quantities of wines are made;—and also a forest.

Being a fortified city, it maintains its own garrison; and the annual revenue of the city is computed at six hundred thousand gilders, equal to seventy thousand pounds sterling.

In the extensive bishopric of Bamberg are eighteen burghs and fifteen market towns; it is so fertile in grain, fruits, good wines, saffron, fine liquorice, lemon and orange trees, as to be stiled, by some, the little Italy of Germany.

Bamberg, its capital city, is well built and populous, is situated near the river Bednitz: but, as too often happens to cities subject to ecclesiastical sovereigns, there is little to be said of its commerce; there are, however, in this city, a cathedral, many fine houses, churches, and convents; and also some charitable foundations.

Wurtzburg is another large and princely bishopric, and its capital city, of the same name, on the Maine, is fortified, has a large cathedral, an university, two collegiate and several parish churches and convents.

This bishopric is very fertile in corn, fruits, and wines, of which last the very best in all Franconia grows near this city. Formerly, Protestantism prevailed much here; but, living under an ecclesiasti-

cal prince, it could not long do so; accordingly, the remaining Lutheran and Calvinist churches are continually preferring to the diets of the empire, their grevious complaints of oppression and injustice; but to very little effect.

The principality or margravate of Brandenburg-Bareith, (or as Dr. Busching writes it, Bayreuth) produces all kinds of necessaries, wine only excepted. In it are mines of silver, copper, lead, iron, antimony, crystal, vitriol, sulphur, terra sigillata, marble, &c. It contains sixteen walled towns, and twenty-six market towns.

1. Bareith, its capital, contains three Protestant churches, viz. two Lutheran and one Calvinist, and a Popish chapel.

2. New Erlang, (called also, from the Margrave's name who founded it, Christian Erlang) is quite a modern town, sprung up, or rather founded, so lately as the year 1686, lying close to old Erlang: its existence and increase has been entirely owing to the accession of the French Protestant Refugees upon the repeal of the edict of Nantes. It being built, as it were, all at once, its streets are therefore very straight, broad, and regular, so as to be now esteemed one of the finest towns in Germany. Here are four churches, and a newly built palace for the sovereign: also an university removed hither from Bareith, in the year 1743.

The French refugees have set up some considerable manufactures here, chiefly of the woollen sort; also stockings and hats, &c. It is surrounded with a wall, &c.

3. Old Erlang, a very ancient place, has but one Lutheran church. Here is a college of commerce.

Here are some other towns in which the French refugees have established manufactures, and have separate churches for themselves.

The revenue of this principality is reckoned, by Mr. Nugent, in his grand tour, to amount to five hundred thousand crowns; but what sort of crowns he does not tell us. He says, that the family of Bareith became extinct in the year 1726; and that his cousin, the marquis of Culembach, succeded to it.

4. Culembach, a strong town, on the river Maine, is described by Mr. Nugent, as not far from its source; and that, at this city, are kept the ancient records of the house of Brandenburg. It has suffered much by fire, particularly in the year 1708, when it was almost destroyed.

5. Hoff has four churches, a gymnasium, a good woollen manufacture, and fine marble; of both which a great deal is exported.

6. Wunfiedel has a manufactory in dyed woollen and linen stuffs, and deals in wrought plate.

In the bishopric of Aichstet are ten towns, beside one market town, and many villages. Aichstet, its capital, has a cathedral, a college, several parish churches, and convents; yet is no way eminent for commerce.

The principality of Onolsbach or Ansbach is Lutheran, and extends quite to the gates of Nurenberg. It abounds in grain, fruits, tobacco, wines, and iron mines. It contains sixteen burghs, and seventeen market towns, has manufactures of woollen cloth, tapestry, stuffs, stockings, gold and silver lace, wire, needles, porcelain, looking glasses, leather, &c.

1. Ansbach, its capital, has several churches, a gymnasium or illustrious school, and some charitable foundations, a prince's palace, a porcelain manufacture, &c.

2. At Swabach are two or three churches, and some charitable foundations; with manufactures of gold and silver lace, iron wire, Spanish steel, pencils, and brass buttons: here are model cutters and needle makers of great fame, manufacturers of fine metal shoe buckles, stocking weavers, of whom there are two hundred master workmen in this town, employing three hundred looms or frames, tobacco spinners, fine tapestry weavers, and manufactures of woollen cloth and stuffs, which

which have been much improved since the first settlement here of the French refugees, in the year 1686.

3. Hoffmarkfurth is a large, commercial, and very populous place, on the Rednitz; where there are great numbers of artisans and mechanics, being such as cannot be received into the guilds and fraternities of Nurenberg, as the laws of the German empire are framed, where the dues run so high; and where also the Jews are so very numerous as to make a third part of the inhabitants, having here a great school and a printing press. The inhabitants of this town are partly subjects of Ansbach, partly of Nurenberg, and partly also of the chapter of [illegible].

4. Roth, though but a small town, has manufactures of stockings, Spun [illegible] and stuffs.

5. Stefft, a market town, seated on the river Maine, has greatly prospered ever since the year 1726, when immunities were promulgated for the benefit of all such manufacturers and merchants as inclined to settle in it.

In the prefecturate of Smalkalden, lies the town of [illegible], situated near the Thuringian wood: it is a considerably large, thriving, and populous town, belonging to the Landgrave of Hesse Cassel, having two churches: its salt pits, and the neighbouring mines of iron and steel, with their forges, occasion this town to reap considerable advantages, and a great trade is here carried on in iron and steel wares.

The free imperial city of Nurenberg is a very large well built city, standing on the Regnitz, which runs through the middle of it, over which, exclusive of divers wooden bridges, are laid six bridges of stone: it has double walls, fortified with several small and large towers, and a broad and deep ditch, about a German mile, or four English miles, in circuit. It contains above five hundred streets, and eight thousand mostly large stone houses, but the number of its inhabitants is not proportioned to the largeness of the town; for though, in many houses, there may reside two or three families, according to Dr Busching, yet in most there is but one; and several houses remain uninhabited. On the other hand, Mr. Keysler, in his Travels, in the years 1730, &c. makes the dwelling houses in Nurenberg to amount to twenty-one thousand in number, which, he adds, are inhabited by seventy-five thousand families. Now, if this last account be near the truth, then, on the moderate computation of four persons to each family, the number of its inhabitants would be three hundred thousand. These two authors, being both Germans, and gentlemen of education and abilities, whose employments and situations, so near to Nurenberg, one would imagine, must have enabled them to be well acquainted with the magnitude of so famous a place; it is truly surprising, that there should be such a difference between their accounts as almost three to one, in respect to the houses in it; and almost ten to one, in respect to the number of inhabitants, allowing four persons, as above, to be in each family. A third author, (Mr. Nugent, in his Grand Tour, second edition, in the year 1756) thinks Nurenberg may contain five hundred and fifty streets and alleys, wherein are sixty thousand inhabitants. So great a disparity is there, for the most part, in the different accounts of voyagers, relating to the magnitude of most of the greater cities of Europe, probably occasioned by their taking only a transient view of such places, as they pass through them, or the vulgar report of some of their inhabitants. Let us then suppose, with Mr. Nugent, that there may be, in each of those five hundred and fifty streets and alleys, forty houses, on a medium, or twenty-two thousand houses in all, and, as many of them are large and lofty, they may, on a like medium, contain six persons in each house, then there may be in this city about one hundred and thirty-two thousand inhabitants, nearly equal to the city of London within its bars; which supposition seems to us to be nearer the truth than any of the three above-named computations. Dr. Busching relates, that the magistrates, and almost all its inhabitants, are Lutherans. That it has six

parish churches, with stated preachers; beside eleven other churches and chapels, in which sometimes deacons, and sometimes candidates for the priesthood preach.—That the few Calvinists residing here have a preacher of their own, perform divine service out of this city, in an house seated in a garden; and that the Roman Catholic service is tolerated in the Teutonic-house.—That its Lutheran clergy consist of six chief preachers, thirty-five deacons, and two vicars. Mr. Nugent thinks it excels all the cities in Germany, in respect to the fairness of its streets, the uniformity of its buildings, and its industry. Dr. Busching says, the council-house is one of the most magnificent in all Germany.—That it has many hospitals and other charitable foundations, beside a gymnasium, and many private schools.—That, in the church of the Holy Ghost are reposited the principal part of the jewels of the empire, such as the crown, sceptre, sword, and imperial apple, never shown but to persons of great distinction.—That its large arsenal is well supplied with all the implements of war; the military force of the city, in time of peace, consisting of seven companies of foot, of each one hundred men, and, in time of war, of each one hundred and eighty-five men, with two companies of cuirassiers, and two of invalids: here also is a citadel or imperial fortress.—That, out of the burghership, twenty-five standards are always kept in arms, each consisting of between three and four hundred men, exclusive of two hundred gunners, and two companies of the town's cavalry.—That its ingenious artists, and handicraft people in ivory, wood, metal, clock-work, &c. have long been most famous every where, and that numberless ingenious things, at very low prices, are exported all over the world; and that, although those curiosities, toys, &c. do not at present bring in so much money as they formerly did, yet those articles are still very considerable, as this city continues to be one of the greatest trading towns in Germany.—That geography is much indebted to the celebrated shops for land charts or maps, established here, by Homman, which shop is also a real ornament and a great honour to the city; which has ten market places, and thirteen public baths.—That the river Pegnitz is let into the city, by twelve large arches under its walls, and let out again by the like number of arches, after running through the middle of the city; and on its stream there are sixty mills for corn and paper, and the making of sword blades, knives, &c. with much dispatch and art.

The territory belonging to Nurenberg contains in it two considerable imperial forests; also several good towns of inferior dimension, citadels, and villages.

From the ancient burg-graves of Nurenberg is descended the present royal and electoral house of Brandenburg, as also the Princes of Bareith and Anspach.

The circle of Swabia is particularly remarkable for containing very many free imperial cities, viz. Augsburg and Ulm, places of the greatest eminence, Eslingen, Reutlingen, Nordtlingen, Hall, Neberlingen, Rothweil, Heilbron, Gemund, Memmingen, Lindau, Dinkensbuhl, Biberach, Ravensburg, Kempten, Kaufbeuren, Weil, Wangen, Ysni, Leutkirch, Wimpfen, Giengen, Ppfullendorf, Buchborn, Aalen, Bopfingen, Buchau, Offenburg, Gengenbach, Zell, (the last three stiling themselves the United Towns, as Efzlingen, Nordtlingen, Hall, Heilbron, Memmingen, and Lindau, are called the six Corresponding Towns, of which Ulm is perpetual director:) many of which towns, with the pompous name of free and imperial cities, like several of the royal burghs in Scotland, are now so mean and inconsiderable, whatever they might anciently have been, as scarcely to merit the being mentioned.

The Duke of Wirtenburg is the most considerable potentate in this circle.

In this dutchy were numbered, in the year 1754, four hundred and seventy-seven thousand one hundred and fifteen inhabitants, which are, since then, supposed to have gradually increased. This dutchy contains sixty-eight cities and towns, one thousand two hundred burghs, market towns, and hamlets.

hamlets. The eſtabliſhed religion is Lutheran, but the Duke Charles Alexander has embraced the Catholic religion; although, in the years 1729, 1732, and 1733, that Prince gave formal aſſurances to the States, that no change nor innovation ſhould be made in the Lutheran eſtabliſhment. And Duke Charles Eugene, in the year 1750, did the ſame.

In this dutchy are manufactures of porcelain, glaſs, fine gold and marbled paper, damaſked linen, &c.

At Tubingen, and other towns, are good manufactures of linen and woollen, cotton printing, hats, ſtockings, &c.

Stutgard, capital of the dutchy of Wirtenburg, though not large, yet contains five Lutheran churches: here are manufactures of ſilks, ſtuffs, ſtockings, porcelain, glaſs, ribbons; and excellent wines, and ſome ſalt ſprings.

Tubingen, on the Neckar, has an univerſity, and a woollen manufacture.

Montbeillard has three Proteſtant churches, and a gymnaſium.

The fine marquiſate of Baden-Baden lies along the eaſt ſide of the Rhine, abounding in corn, wine, flax, hemp, wood, &c. yet has no town, nor any manufactures of eminence.

The marquiſate of Baden-Dourlach, lying on the eaſt ſide of the Rhine, has an exuberance of good wine, corn, flax, hemp, horſes, ſeveral iron works, yet ſcarce any peculiar manufactures, nor towns of any eminence.

The fine, large and ſtrong, free, imperial city of Augſburg is ſituated on the river Lech, which runs into the Danube. It has a grand cathedral, in which is fourteen chapels, ſix Popiſh pariſh churches, two abbeys, eight convents; ſix Lutheran pariſh churches, and a Lutheran gymnaſium, or great ſchool, ſeveral hoſpitals, and other charitable foundations. It has the fineſt town houſe in all Germany. On its fine aqueducts, for the conveyance of water into it, are ſeveral mills for corn, ſawing, and for flatting and ſmelting of metals. Its burghers are computed to amount to ſix thouſand. What Dr. Buſching here means by the word burghers, he has not clearly explained, though probably is thereby meant what in England is called Freemen of cities and towns. Augſburg has very long been celebrated for its curious artiſts in gold, ſilver, clock-work, tin, &c. and its commerce is ſtill conſiderable; although formerly it was much more ſo, whilſt the merchandize of the Eaſt Indies continued to be brought to it from Venice, before the Portugueſe diſcovered the way by ſea to the Eaſt Indies

Here is a great wine and ſalt office, with vaſt magazines of Rheniſh, Moſelle, and Tyrol wines. They deal here conſiderably in banking, and are famous for their goldſmiths ware, with which they ſupply a great part of Germany and Poland, and are even ſaid to outdo Nurenberg in clock-work, fine ſteel chains, and iron works, and it is ſtill one of the largeſt and fineſt cities in all Germany. It magiſtracy is half Lutheran and half Catholic. It has a conſiderable circumjacent diſtrict, and ſome villages. Its Biſhop is a Prince of the empire, as indeed all other Biſhops are within the German empire.

The free, imperial, and fortified city of Ulm is deemed the capital of the circle of Swabia, ſituated on the Danube. Its magiſtracy, and moſt of its inhabitants, are Lutheran. Here are ſeveral Lutheran churches, and ſundry good ſecular edifices, beſide the town houſe and arſenal. It maintains ſix companies of ſoldiers for its guard. Ulm trades conſiderably in linen, cotton, clock-work, and in great quantities of wines brought thither from the Rhine, the Neckar, the lake of Conſtance, and the Valteline, and thence carried farther up the Danube. Ulm's territory is about twenty-four Engliſh miles in length, and ſixteen in breadth.

Here are abundance of lesser imperial cities in this circle, as Memingen, partly Lutheran and partly Catholic, said to carry on a good trade with Switzerland and Italy, in salt, linen, hops, corn, paper, &c. Yet most of the rest already named, are scarcely otherwise considerable but merely in name, without being eminent either for commerce or manufactures.

In the circle of Bavaria is,

1. The very extensive archbishopric of Saltzburg, which terminates eastward on Austria, and southward on Tyrol, consists entirely of mountains, deep valleys, and narrow passes; whereby they are constrained to have all their corn from the Electorate of Bavaria: yet they have plenty of hay of a peculiar excellence, and their horses are much esteemed for their beauty and hardiness. Their salt, of various colours, is hewn out of subterraneous places, and then dissolved in fresh water pits, of the brine whereof the finest salt is made, and much of it exported to Bavaria in exchange for corn, pursuant to an ancient compact between the electorate and this archbishopric. Here also are very considerable mines, says Dr. Busching, of gold, silver, copper, lead, iron, and lapis calaminaris, a great deal of brass and steel being here made, and an almost incredible quantity of swords, sabres, bayonets, muskets, cannon, and mortars. And, although this country be altogether inland, there are in it such important materials for commerce as are more than sufficient to enable it to grow opulent and populous. It contains six cities and twenty-five market towns. Such, nevertheless, are the mischiefs of ecclesiastico-temporal dominion over the laity, that these sovereign archbishops have oppressed, and at length gradually extirpated, their formerly numerous nobility, and have annexed their estates to the clergy. These ecclesiastical tyrants have, moreover, by all the various means of oppression and cruelty, driven out, in our own days, great numbers of their Lutheran subjects, no fewer than thirty thousand of such, in the year 1732, being dispersed into the Protestant countries of Germany and Prussia, and some of them even as far as the British continent colonies of America. In all which parts they have been received with that benevolence and encouragement which their great resolution and Christian magnanimity justly merited! And, ever since that period, their emigrations have still continued, to the great depopulation of the country. Thus, wherever ecclesiastical despotism prevails, the sole consideration is the propagating the power of the clergy, though to the ruin of the country.

This Archbishop is so considerable a Prince, that his assessment, in the matricula of the empire, is equal to that of an Elector, being sixty horse and two hundred and seventy-seven foot, or one thousand eight hundred and twenty-eight florins; and to the chamber of Wetzlar he pays six hundred and eight rix-dollars annually: Mr. Keysler thinks his revenues amount to no less than eight hundred thousand rix-dollars, or about one hundred and eighty thousand pounds sterling.

1. Saltzburg, or, as often written, Salzburg, its well fortified capital city, contains thirty churches, beside its great cathedral, a grand palace for the sovereign, an university, several convents, and hospitals, and some good palaces: it is well situated for trade, upon the river Salza, which runs into the Inn, which falls into the Danube at Passau. Yet none of our voyagers write any thing particular of its manufactures or commerce.

2. Gastein, a market town, is noted for its warm bath, and for its lead, silver, and gold mines.

In the proper electorate and dutchy of Bavaria are reckoned thirty-five walled towns, ninety-five market towns, and eleven thousand seven hundred villages; and, in what is called the Upper Palatinate, also subject to the Elector, are thirteen walled towns, and twenty-eight market towns; and, in all the electorate, one thousand five hundred parishes, beside very many convents with chapels.

Manufacture

Manufactures have of late been cultivated here, viz. coarse woollen cloth, stuffs, and stockings; also silks, velvets, tapestry, good clocks, watches, &c. Yet not so considerable, but that still its principal exports consist only of grain, cattle, timber, salt, and iron.

Its fortified capital city is Munich, on the river Izer, containing forty thousand inhabitants, several fine churches, convents, palaces, and hospitals, beside the electoral palace. At its annual fairs are sold vast quantities of salt, wines, &c. And here are manufactures of wool, silk, tapestry, and velvet.

2. Ingolstadt, a strong and populous city on the Danube, has five churches, a college and gymnasium, three convents, and an university; and, as it has the privilege of a staple, its happy situation on so noble a river gives it great commercial advantages.

3. Friedberg, a town of two churches; is famous for its clocks and watches.

4. Wasserburg, a town of four churches and several convents; has a considerable trade in salt, as have also all those of Fraunstein and Reichenhall; the latter having a very extraordinary machine for carrying its salt-springs over some high mountains, to a considerable distance.

In the Lower Bavaria is,

1. Landshut, an open well-built town on the Iser, having two electoral palaces in it, a college and church, the steeple of which is deemed the highest in Germany, one parish church, and six convents.

2. Straubing is a well-built town on the Danube, with two churches, four convents, and a college.

In the Upper Palatinate is Amberg, its fortified capital, and the largest town in the said Palatinate, on the river Vils; but its commerce is no where said to be remarkable.

The city of Freysing, the capital of the sovereign bishopric of that name, has a cathedral, four collegiate and two parish churches, with several convents and charitable foundations.

In the dutchy of Newburg, subject to the Elector Palatine, is Newburg, its capital, a neat, but small fortified city on the Danube. Of its commerce or manufactures we have very little account, only Mr. Nugent relates, that wines are sold weekly in its markets.

The noble, free, and Imperial city and bishopric of Ratisbon, otherwise called Regensburg, stands at the confluence of the Danube and Regen. The city is large and populous: its magistrates and burghers are Lutheran, as are most of its churches. Yet here is a Popish Scotish cloister, a collegiate church, and several convents and hospitals. The diets of the empire have been held here for about one hundred years past, to the considerable emolument of this city. Here is a strong, palatable wine, and an important salt staple and trade: and from this city large quantities of corn, wood, and provisions of all kinds, are continually sent down the Danube to Vienna.

In the bishopric of Passau is the city of Passau, on the Danube, at the confluence of the river Inn, on the south-side. It contains a cathedral, and several churches and convents. Its very happy situation for trade, would naturally give ground for conjecturing it had some share of it, yet there does not seem to be any thing considerable of it here; for which we can no otherwise account, than that it is absolutely subject to an ecclesiastical sovereign. Its bishop's territory extends about twenty miles on the north side of the Danube.

The kingdom and electorate of Bohemia may truly be said to be a decayed country, since it came under despotic government. By reason of its former distractions, it is far from being what it was one hundred and fifty years ago, when it was computed to contain above three millions of people.

Prague, its celebrated capital, according to Mr. Keysler's travels, contains one hundred thousand inhabitants: but Dr. Busching's account reduces it to seventy thousand Christians, and thirteen

teen thousand Jews, the latter dealing much in jewels; who adds, that although its commerce is not considerable, yet it contains ninety-two churches and chapels, and about forty cloisters.

Here are many other walled towns and burghs; yet it does not appear that any of them are eminent either for commerce or for manufactures.

In Bohemia, however, is very good tin, good silver mines, precious stones of various kinds,—plenty of corn, cattle, alum, and glass manufactures, and some good wines.

Moravia, generally esteemed a part of Bohemia, has some manufactures of woollen, iron, glass, paper, gunpowder, &c. and several good walled towns and burghs, though none eminent in a commercial sense, but

1. Olmutz, its strong and extensive capital, containing a cathedral, twenty-six churches, seven chapels, nine convents, several hospitals, and an university.

2. Brinn, a large walled town, said to have more trade than even Olmutz itself.

3. Iglau, a strong and populous town, has some good woollen manufactures.

The great and extensive province of Silesia has been usually deemed to belong to the kingdom of Bohemia, but is at present subject to the King of Prussia, and not now comprehended in any particular circle of the German empire: it borders westward on Bohemia, and eastward on Poland, to which last kingdom it anciently belonged.

It abounds in all necessaries, and in many valuable productions: as flax, hops, madder, tobacco, tar, pitch, turpentine, pit-coal, mines of silver, copper, lead, tin, and iron, good wool; and in good years its wine, when kept for some years, proves good. Of late also raw silk is cultivated.

The great river Oder traverses this country from end to end, for about two hundred English miles in length, and the country may be about seventy miles in breadth. The Oder first becomes navigable at Ratibor.

Dr. Busching thinks that the people of Silesia may exceed a million and an half; so that it exceeds, in that respect, some kingdoms of Europe. Yet when he computes, or rather supposes, that, out of thirty-eight persons, there die four annually, he (or perhaps only, through mistake, his English translator) seems to be out of all rational probability; for, in another part of his work, he only supposes one to die annually out of thirty-eight; upon which computation also we have elsewhere animadverted. Beside the clergy, the people of this province consist of princes, dukes, counts, barons, gentry, citizens, and peasantry; and the bulk of its people are of both religions, that is, Catholics and Lutherans; beside there being here also many Calvinist congregations. At Breslau there is also a Greek church, and a Jews synagogue; as there are also in some other parts. But whilst this country was in the possession of the House of Austria, the Protestants were grievously harassed, though contrary to solemn and repeated stipulations.

Its principal and very universal manufactures consist of thread, and of linen of various kinds and fineness, twine, linen-printing, canvas, buckrams, plain, striped, and flowered veils, very fine Turkish thread, lace, paper, woollen cloth and stuffs, stockings, hats, linsey-woolseys, plain and figured fustians, calimancoes, plush, cotton, and other stuffs; glass-houses, leather-dressing, powder-mills, iron-mills, and manufactures of iron of many various sorts.

Silesia's principal exports are, madder, mill-stones, linen, thread and yarn, woollen cloths, paper, wax, honey, and leather.

Its imports are, Polish wheat, salt, wines, spices, drugs, fabrics, &c.

Dr. Busching thinks that since Silesia has been subject to the King of Prussia, commerce has been much improved by that monarch's excellent regulations.—And he subjoins, that it is generally supposed

ſuppoſed, that all Pruſſian Sileſia, in conjunction with the county of Glatz, brings in above four millions of rix-dollars per annum; a revenue ſurpaſſing that of ſeveral European kingdoms.

1. Breſlau, its capital city, on the Oder, which runs cloſe by the walls, is, with all its ſuburbs, two German miles (or eight Engliſh miles) in circumference. It has ſeveral large and regular ſquares, and its principal ſtreets are broad, beſide many ſtately public edifices, it contains a number of very elegant houſes. It has about fifteen Popiſh pariſh churches, three abbeys, and thirteen or fourteen convents, about nine Lutheran churches, one Calviniſt church, one Greek church, and a Jews ſynagogue. The Lutherans have two flouriſhing gymnaſiums, under the direction of eleven profeſſors, and alſo a grammar-ſchool. Here is alſo an archiepiſcopal cathedral and palace, with an univerſity, a fine merchants exchange, two armories, a college of phyſicians, and many ſtate-offices. Its magiſtracy is Lutheran. It is at preſent the centre of all the trade of Sileſia, has two fairs yearly, at which vaſt quantities of merchandize are ſold to the Poles and Hungarians.

Sileſia contains one hundred and fifty cities and walled towns, beſide market-towns, and about four thouſand villages: it has a conſiderable advantage in trade, by having a communication, by water, with Hamburg; and its manufactures of linen and thread are exported in great quantities to England and Holland.

2. Brieg, on the Oder, is one of the largeſt and ſtrongeſt cities of Sileſia.

In it is an abbey, a college, and a convent; two Lutheran churches and their gymnaſium; and here is manufactured good woollen cloth.

3. The ſame may be ſaid of Strehlen, which has diverſe good woollen manufactures, two Lutheran churches, and a convent.

4. Schweidnitz, the capital of its own principality, is a ſtrong fortreſs, however unaccountably ſurprized by the Auſtrians, in the year 1761, though ſince retaken. It has one pariſh church, college, and ſeminary; alſo another Popiſh church, and four convents; and one Lutheran church without the gates.

5, 6. Landſhut and Reichenbach are towns having conſiderable manufactures of linen, canvas, and fuſtian.

7. Javer, the capital of its principality, has two Romiſh churches, and one Calviniſt church.

Hirchberg is one of the fineſt, moſt populous, and opulent towns here, where every year many thouſand pieces of linen veils, and other linen goods are whitened, it being, next to Breſlau, the principal place of commerce in all Sileſia.

8. Schmeidberg is an open free mine town, of conſiderable trade, more eſpecially in the iron manufactures, and alſo in linen and linen-damaſk, and in half and whole ſilk-damaſks.

9. Lignitz, the capital of the province of that name, is one of the beſt towns in Sileſia, has a collegiate church, which, in 1698, was taken from the Lutherans, and given to the Jeſuits, who had a college here. Here are ſome Romiſh churches and convents, yet the Lutherans have ſtill two churches. Here is a good trade in cloth and madder.

10. Goldberg has one parochial Lutheran church, and two Romiſh convents. It had formerly a gold mine.

11. Luben has many cloth-workers, and its pariſh church and ſchool are Lutheran: and the ſame may be ſaid of Parchwitz.

12. Wolaw, the chief town of the principality of the ſame name, having one Popiſh church and convent, one Lutheran pariſh church and ſchool.

13. In Steinau is a Lutheran pariſh church, and a Popiſh chapel; therein are good cloth manufactures.

14. In

14. In the principality of Glogau is Great Glogau, its capital, (there being another of that name in Upper Silesia) has a Popish abbey, another church, a college, two convents, a Lutheran church and school, and a Calvinist church, for the use of the court, consecrated in the year 1751.

15. Grunberg and Schwibus have good woollen cloth manufactures, with each a Romish and Lutheran church.

16. Neisse, a very strong town, the chief of a principality of the same name, and on a river of the same, has a Popish collegiate church, and one other church, an abbey, a college, and five convents.

17. Ziegenhals is remarkable only for its manufactures of beautiful glass.

18. The principality of Oels, has Oels, its chief town, containing two Lutheran churches, and one Popish church.

The principality of Sagan has,

19. Sagan, its chief town, contains a palace, an abbey, a convent, and a college, also a Lutheran church and school, for which privilege, says Dr. Busching, the Lutherans advanced to the Emperor a loan of fifty thousand florins, beside a donation of ten thousand more. Of this kind of indulgences to the Lutherans in Silesia, by the Austrian family, for pecuniary considerations, there are several other instances given by Dr Busching. Here are several iron-mills, and one copper-mill.

The principality of Munsterberg produces all sorts of grain, flax, hemp, hops, and good cattle.

20. Munsterberg, its chief town, has two Romish churches, a Lutheran oratory, and one of Bohemian Calvinists. The culture of hops is its chief employment.

In the principalities of Trachenberg and Caolath, and the lordship of Wartenberg, there is nothing properly relative to our principal subject; only in the last-mentioned lordship we find there were formerly thirteen Lutheran churches, of all which they were deprived in the year 1654.

The principality of Oppeln, though the largest, is seemingly the poorest principality, the greatest part of its people are Poles, and the rest are Germans, or their descendants.

Oppeln, on the Oder, though its chief town, yet little else can be said of it, but that it is a decayed place, occasioned by various calamities, more especially by fires, which is also the case of many other towns in Silesia, their houses being mostly timber. Yet here is a collegiate abbey, a parish church, a college, and two convents.

The small principality of Ratibor produces all sorts of grain and fruits.

Ratibor, its capital, lies on the Oder, has two churches and four convents; yet nothing respecting manufactures or commerce can be said of this place.

The principalities of Troppau and Jagerndorf are fertile countries, lying contiguous to, and once belonging to Bohemia or Moravia: they are partly subject to the King of Prussia, and partly to Austria.

1. Troppau, a town on the river Oppa, is esteemed the capital of Upper Silesia; it has three parochial churches, a college, and four or five convents. It was mostly destroyed by fire in the year 1758, according to Dr. Busching.

2. Jagerndorf, a town likewise on the Oppa, has two churches and one convent.

The principality of Teschen borders on Moravia, Poland, and Hungary.

Teschen, its fortified capital, stands on the river Elsa, in a very fertile soil, has two Popish churches and a college. In its suburbs is a Lutheran church, wherein divine service is performed both in the German and Polish languages, and also a Lutheran school: both which cost the Lutherans a donation of ten thousand florins to the Emperor.

In this principality ſtands a ſtrong fort for the defence of the famous paſs of Jablounka, at the very entrance into the kingdom of Hungary.

The ſovereign county of Glatz lies between Sileſia, Bohemia, and Moravia, ſurrounded with rugged mountains, though in itſelf a fine country, having plenty of corn, pit-coal, quarries of ſtone and marble, jaſper, topazes, and cornelian, with mines of ſilver and copper. Its manufactures are conſiderable in thread and linen.

1. Glatz, its capital town, is very ſtrong, ſituated on the river Neyſz, its pariſh church was poſſeſſed by the Jeſuits, who formerly had a college and ſeminary; there is another church and convent in its ſuburbs.

2. Reiners, a ſmall open town, famous for good cloth and pluſh, and paper-making. The laſt ſays Dr Buſching, by no means inferior to that of Holland.

3. Wunſchelburg, a fortified town, having divers woollen and linen manufactures.

4. Nowrode has manufactures of cloth and ſtuffs.

The Circle of Austria.

Abounds in corn, cattle, horſes, ſaffron, and, towards the frontiers of Hungary, an excellent ſort of wine; it has alſo a rich ſilver mine, firſt begun to be worked ſo lately as the year 1754.

Vienna is the magnificent and ſtrongly fortified metropolis of both Upper and Lower Auſtria. It has a noble univerſity. Here the rich and fine manufactures have, of late years, been much improved and increaſed; particularly thoſe of ſilk, gold and ſilver lace, woollen and linen cloths, ſtuffs, and ſtockings, mirrors, and other plate glaſs; manufactures of braſs and porcelain, &c. And the importation of foreign manufactures is almoſt totally prohibited. Vienna, according to Dr. Buſching, conſtantly increaſes in its commerce, and, in the year 1704, a bank for exchanges and loans was erected, which, in 1706, was wiſely put under the management of her own magiſtrates: and the court of commerce here was, in the year 1753, declared to be a peculiar aulic tribunal. It is not our province nor intention to give a particular deſcription of ſo vaſt a city, wherein, according to Buſching, its numerous churches and extenſive cloiſters, with their gardens and walks, occupy almoſt a ſixth part of the whole city. It has fifteen ſquares, very many fine palaces, and various academies for all the fine arts. Its ſuburbs are much larger than the town itſelf; they have a citadel, and are, in ſome meaſure, fortified, and contain many palaces, churches, cloiſters, gardens, &c. Here are two imperial palaces, and the many high colleges, boards and judicatories, do not a little enhance its credit and ſplendor. Here are ſeveral large and particular libraries, and the vaſtneſs of the imperial library exceeds both the Vatican and royal French libraries. Theatres, cabinets of rarities, arſenals, and in ſhort. every other requiſite to conſtitute a great city, are here to be found.

Vienna's principal exports are wine, ſaffron, gunpowder, and alum: it lies on a branch of the Danube; the ſuburbs are much larger than the ancient city, and both together may contain about one hundred and eighty thouſand to two hundred thouſand inhabitants, according to Dr. Buſching; amongſt whom are all kinds of artiſts and manufacturers, ſo that the principal commerce of Auſtria does, in a manner, ſolely center at Vienna. In peaceable times here may be ſeen Turks, Tartars, Greeks, Hungarians, Spaniards, Italians, French, Polanders, &c. all in their ſeveral habits. Yet the trade of Vienna, ſays the ingenious Mr. Keyſler, in his Travels, in the year 1731, is little anſwerable to its largeneſs, and its convenient ſituation, partly owing to heavy duties and impoſts.

2. Lints, (or Linz) in Upper Auſtria, on the Danube, is its capital town, and is well-built and populous; it has two churches and ſix convents; has ſome conſiderable trade, and ſome woollen and ſilk manufactures, and ſeveral conſiderable fairs.

In theſe parts are many ſmall fortified towns, and very many burghs or market towns, of which we can ſay very little in reſpect to our principal ſubject.

The dutchy of Stiria lies to the ſouth of Auſtria, and though very mountainous, abounds in corn, wine, ſalt, and cattle, as well as in the beſt of iron and the fineſt of ſteel, with copper, lead, and ſome ſilver.

Gratz, its capital, is a large fortified town, having a conſiderable number of churches, chapels, and convents: but of its commerce or its manufactures, or of that of any other place in this dutchy, there is very little to be ſaid.

The dutchy of Carinthia lies weſt of Stiria, is very woody and mountainous, and its productions nearly the ſame as in Stiria.

Clagenfurt is its principal town, is well built, has ſix churches, and ſeveral monaſteries; but we know as little of its commerce and manufactures as of the before-named city of Gratz.

The dutchy of Carniola lies ſouth of Carinthia and Stiria, and, although extremely mountainous, abounds in fine fruits, and exports excellent wines, grain, iron, ſome copper and lead, timber for ſhip-building, linen, oil of olives, quickſilver, and coarſe woollen ſtuffs.

Labach, or Laybach, its chief town, has a cathedral, and ſeveral churches and convents, with ſome trade, as not being far from the gulph of Trieſte on the Adriatic Sea.

Trieſte is a town on the Adriatic Sea: the late Empreſs Queen, Maria Thereſa, fortified it, and beſtowed on it various immunities, even ſo far as to be, in ſome reſpects, a free port, ſo that many ſhips reſort to it with merchandize, and relade the merchandize of the neighbouring countries. It has a cathedral, and ſeveral churches and convents.

Fiume, otherwiſe called St. Viet, on a bay of the Adriatic Sea, is populous, has a collegiate church, ſeveral convents, and a college, as we may be certain to find in every tolerable town belonging to the Houſe of Auſtria. From hence, ſays Dr. Buſching, large quantities of merchandize are exported, which are brought from Hungary, &c. for which end the Emperor Charles VI. repaired the roads leading to it.

This dutchy of Carniola abounds with many ſtrange caves, caverns, lakes, &c. of very extraordinary kinds, and ſurprizing qualities; but theſe are foreign to our main purpoſe.

The adjoining county of Goritia, or Goriz, produces much raw ſilk, corn, and good wine.

Goritia, its chief town, has ſeven convent-churches, nine chapels, and a college.

The Anterior Auſtria contains,

I. The county of Tirol, which, though very mountainous, and, like the Alps, has the ſummits of thoſe mountains conſtantly covered with ſnow, yet is nevertheleſs very fertile, and abounds in rich mines. All the fine fruits and wines of Italy grow here; alſo, much flax and ſilk; here, likewiſe, are various precious ſtones, ſalt pits, mines of ſilver, copper, lead, alum, and vitriol.

1. Inſpruck, on the river Inn, its capital, is a large city, containing many fine churches, convents and palaces, a college, and an arſenal. This place has a very gainful trade in ſalt.

2. Bolzano is a large, though open town, famous for its four annual fairs, much frequented by merchants from Germany and Italy. In Tirol are ſeveral leſſer towns and burghs, ſome of which carry on a good trade in ſilk, &c.

3. The

3. The bishopric of Trent lies within the said great county of Tirol, and is subject to Austria. The city of Trent lies on the river Etsch, bordering on the Venetian territories: it is an old-built city, having a cathedral, three parish churches, a fine college, and two convents; but is not eminent in a commercial sense. And the like may be said of the neighbouring bishopric and city of Brixen.

The county of Bregents, or Bregenz, has a capital town of the same name, standing on the Boden Sea, or Lake of Constance, it is chiefly known for good iron works, and for great quantities of timber felled in its woods, and exported to Switzerland and Swabia.

The Austrian territories in Swabia are, in many places, intersected by other territories.

Constance, (Costanz, or Costnitz, as Dr. Busching variously writes it) an ancient city on the south-west shore of the lake of that name, otherwise called the Boden Sea, near where the river Rhine issues out of that lake, after passing through it. Its people are said to be mostly Protestants, although there be in it a Popish cathedral, a college, and three convents.

In Austrian Brisgau stand the once-strong fortresses of Friburg and Old Brisac; both which towns are now of small significance, as being dismantled. Here are many other detached towns and burghs belonging to the house of Austria, but not significant enough to be particularly specified.

The tenth and last Circle of the German Empire is stiled the Circle of Burgundy: but as the greatest part of it has been ravished from that empire, at different times, it is now become little more than a mere name. It contained,

1. The dutchy and county of Burgundy.
2. The dutchy of Lorrain.
3. The seventeen provinces of the Netherlands.
4. The electorate of Treves.
5. The bishopric of Liege; and,
6. The dutchies of Juliers and Berg.

The first and second are possessed by France, as also a considerable part of the third. Of the third, the republic of the Belgic provinces have got seven entire provinces, and some parts of four more, viz. of Flanders, Brabant, Limburg, and of the upper quarter of Guelderland. The fourth has partly been curtailed by France, and the rest is annexed to the circle of the Lower Rhine. The bishopric of Liege, from the fifth, is annexed to the circle of Westphalia; though commonly reckoned in the Netherlands: and the sixth is also annexed to the circle of Westphalia. So all that properly remains of this tenth circle is only such part of the ten provinces of the Netherlands as now remain under the subjection of Austria, and which we are now to describe, viz.

1. The Austrian part of Flanders. Its soil is particularly fertile, and is proper for agriculture, flax, and pasturage for the breeding of cattle, horses, and sheep, as well as for the finest butter and cheese. It has also plenty of sea and river fish, fruits, and garden stuff. This province is cultivated to the utmost degree of perfection, and is extremely populous, containing sixty-two walled and open towns, and many hundreds of villages. It is well known that this province was the earliest of any country, without the Mediterranean, that entered into the manufacture of both woollen and linen cloth, which they held and increased for several centuries, until other nations have gradually excelled them both in the one and in the other.

Their principal cities and towns, are,

1. Ghent, or Gaunt, on the river Sheldt, the capital of this province. It is still a very large city, with a strong citadel, though much declined from its ancient opulence and splendour, has thirteen market-places, a grand cathedral, a collegiate, and six parish churches, two abbeys, two colleges,

seven monasteries, and twenty-two nunneries, besides many chapels and hospitals. It has still a considerable linen manufacture, called Ghentings, with others of woollen cloth and stuffs, as also of silk. It is happily situated by means of its many navigable canals, &c. for a trade for corn, &c. by its communication with other towns and with the ocean. It is ten miles in circuit, has many fine streets and buildings, although there be many void spaces within its walls.

2. Courtray, or Cortryck, contains one parish church, a college, eight convents, and some hospitals. It is famous for its fine linen manufacture.

3. Dendermond has two parish churches, and six convents: its neighbourhood yields plenty of grain, hemp, and flax.

4. Bruges is a large, strong, and well-built, almost round, city: it was formerly of great renown for commerce, almost beyond any other in Europe, though now much decayed. It has so many well-contrived canals, as enables it to hold communication with Ghent, Ostend, and Sluys, and consequently with the sea, from which it is but three leagues distant. Here is a cathedral, two collegiate and five parish churches, many chapels, a college, thirty-one convents, and several charitable foundations; and it has still several good manufactures of fine woollen stuffs, tapestry, fustians, worked cottons, linen, and lace: having sixty-eight companies of artificers, each having a separate hall. Sluys was its ancient harbour, until it fell into the hands of the Dutch, when the Brugians dug another canal from Ostend, upwards of nine miles in length, up to the city, navigable for ships of two hundred tons burden. It still continues to have a trade in Spanish wool, &c. and has in it many noble structures.

5. Ypres is a strong and famous city, having a cathedral, five parish churches, a college, fourteen convents, and several charitable foundations. Its woollen manufactory, which, like the rest of Flanders, was much celebrated of old, is now greatly decayed; but its manufacture of table linen is still considerable: and it is probable, that the sort of table linen, which in England is called Diaper was originally so named from this city; as much as to say Toile d'Ypres. At its annual fair in Lent much silks and says are vended. Ypres is one of those three called in records, the three good towns of Flanders; Ghent and Bruges being the other two.

6. Popperingen is a burgh, containing three churches and as many convents; has some woollen and large linen and tapestry manufactures, having still a woollen cloth hall and a bay hall.

7. Tournay is a large, strong, and elegant city, containing seventeen parish churches, many convents, and charitable foundations. Its manufactures are tapestry bed-curtains, coverlets, and worked stuffs.

8. Ostend is a small, but strong sea-port, at the mouth of the river Guele, chiefly memorable for its harbour, in respect of packet-boats and other vessels corresponding with the Austrian Netherlands.

☞ It has been erected into a free port by his present Imperial Majesty.

9. Nieuport, a sea-port with no very good harbour, and therefore principally inhabited by fishermen.

The other towns of this and the other Netherland provinces, under the dominion of France shall be described with that kingdom.

AUSTRIAN HAINAULT, *viz.*

The province of Hainault, called in Dutch—Hennegau, has plenty of corn, cattle, sheep, wool, pit-coal, timber, iron, marble, &c. It contains twenty-four towns, and some hundreds of villages, What the former and later conquests of France have still left to the House of Austria, are,

 1. Mons,

1. Mons, in Dutch named Bergen, is the largeſt, faireſt, and principal town of the whole province, containing four thouſand ſix hundred houſes, ſix pariſh churches, a college, and ſeveral convents. It is a place of good trade in woollen ſtuffs and other merchandize.

2. Aeth is a ſtrong little town, having ſome good linen manufactures.

3. Leſſinas, a ſmall town, where a conſiderable quantity of linen is made.

4. Enghien is a ſmall place, with a tapeſtry manufacture. Here are, beſides, ſome inconſiderable places.

The province of Namur is entirely Auſtrian. It is very mountainous and woody; its principal riches conſiſt in iron and ſteel; though here are alſo lead, pit-coal, marble, and all ſorts of grain in its flatter parts.

1. Charleroy, though intended merely for a fortreſs, has, nevertheleſs, numbers of iron melting-houſes for mills, forges for cannon, and other iron manufactures.

☞ Its fortifications have of late been deſtroyed in common with all the other fortified towns of the Low Countries.

Namur is a very ſtrong city, with a ſtronger citadel. It ſtands on the river Meuſe, or Maeſe, has a cathedral, ſix pariſh churches, a college, (formerly a Jeſuits,) and thirteen convents. Its principal manufacture is in hardware; particularly knives and edge tools of all kinds.

Austrian Brabant.

The greateſt natural wealth of this province conſiſts in flax. It has nineteen walled towns, and many burghs and villages.

1. Louvain, on the river Dyle, is, in point of precedence, the firſt city of Brabant, and was once very opulent and very large. Its noble manufactures of woollen and linen, in the former part of the fourteenth century, maintained upwards of one hundred and fifty thouſand workmen, though probably not all within its walls; until, in the year 1380, or according to others 1382, the cloth weavers making an inſurrection there, for which many of them were puniſhed, the reſt withdrew into England and other parts, which cauſed the loſs of that great trade. It is eaſy to imagine the preſent ſad condition of a great city thus permanently deprived of ſuch vaſt manufactures, and therewith of its wealth and people; ſo as now to be but the mere ſhadow of what it once was. It is, however, a walled city of ſix miles in circumference; but within the walls there are meadows and gardens. Here are, however, ſome few manufactures both of woollen and linen, beſide their beer, of which they vend very large quantities all over the country. Louvain alſo has long had a very large univerſity, containing about forty colleges: here alſo are thirty convents, a collegiate church, a town houſe of the moſt beautiful gothic architecture, &c. &c.

2. Bruſſels is the ſecond city in rank: and, being the ſeat of government for all the Auſtrian provinces, it has long been a large, beautiful, and populous city, with many magnificent public and private edifices; has nine pariſh churches, and thirty-four convents, including the college. It is ſtill eminent for its manufactures of fine camblets, lace, and tapeſtry, and by its canals into the river Scheld, it has a conſiderable commerce with other parts. Here is an eſtabliſhed office or lombard for lending money on pledges, at moderate intereſt; and the public place called the Park is not equalled by any ſquare in any city of Europe.

3. Antwerp, on the Scheldt, is the third in rank, containing ſtill many magnificent edifices, both public and private.

From

From Louis Guicciardini's defcription of it, in the fixteenth century, we have, under the year 1585, given a view of it when in its meridian glory. At prefent it is a very beautiful city, has above two hundred ftreets, a fine cathedral, four collegiate and four parifh churches, four abbeys and a college, ten monafteries, and nineteen nunneries, all adorned with the fineft paintings, a ftately ftadt houfe, and a merchants exchange, which was the firft ftructure of that kind in all Europe, upon the model of which thofe of London and Amfterdam were built. For above the fpace of an entire century it was one of the moft trading cities that ever exifted. It is true, Guicciardini, in the height of its glory, does not make it much exceed one hundred thoufand fettled inhabitants; but Doctor Bufching, in his New Geography, relates, that, about the middle of the fixteenth century, there were in it computed upwards of two hundred thoufand inhabitants and ftrangers. We have feen how much it fuffered in the year 1576, and its miferable ruin, in the year 1585. In the treaty of Munfter, in 1648, between Spain and Holland, it was ftipulated, that no large fhip fhould be permitted to fail up to this unfortunate city. Neverthelefs, Antwerp's modern tapeftry and lace manufactures are very fine; and they have an infurance company: foon after the great lofs of their commerce, the Antwerpians began to turn their thoughts to banking and exchanges, as well as to jewelling and painting; in all which they excel, even in our own times.

The city of Mechlin, denominated the Fair, on the river Dyle, running into the Scheldt, is a well built place, with broad and clean ftreets, an archiepifcopal cathedral and palace, fix parifh churches, twenty-two convents, and a college. It is eminently celebrated for its manufactures of the fineft lace, alfo for linen, tanning of leather, corn, blankets, thread, founderies for bells and cannon.

In the dutchy and province of Limburg, Limburg, its chief town, is all that is left to the Auftrians, and is a place of little or no commercial fignificance. The reft of this province, as Valkenburg, Rolduo, and Dalem, are to be found under the defcription of the United Netherlands.

Auftrian Luxemburg, or Lutzelburg, has good corn, cattle, Mofelle wine, many iron works, and founderies for cannon. Luxemburg, its capital, is a very ftrong, though fmall place, having been much contended for between the two great houfes of Auftria and Bourbon. As a frontier town it retains its fortifications, which are very ftrong, and always a large garrifon. It has a college and fome convents, but is not a commercial place. Here are many fmall towns and villages, but they are too near the frontiers of France to enjoy any thing confiderable in commerce or manufactures, as they have been fo often ravaged by that reftlefs nation.

Auftrian Guelderland contains the ftrong town of Roermund, or Ruremond, on the river Roer, which here runs into the Maefe. It is the largeft place in this dutchy; but it has fo frequently been befieged and taken, as to be of no commercial confideration. In this country are alfo many villages. The ftrong town of Gueldres, and fome leffer towns and villages, in what is called the upper quarter of Guelderland, belong to the King of Pruffia, but are not memorable in a commercial light.

And this is all that is left of what may now by properly called the circle of Burgundy.

Two very obvious reafons have naturally led us to be more copious on the German empire than on any other country of Europe, viz.

Firft, The great number of independent ftates and of free imperial cities with their diftricts; each of which have generally, more or lefs, required a diftinct confideration, as well in a political as in a commercial fenfe.

Secondly, The vaft improvements, within the compafs of one century paft, in manufactures, manual arts, agriculture, and water carriage, for the convenience of commerce; principally effected in

in the more northern circles, and eſpecially in thoſe of Upper and Lower Saxony, in a very great degree occaſioned by the acceſſion of ſo great a number of ſober, uſeful, ingenious and induſtrious foreigners, which required a more particular animadverſion; whereas in all, or moſt of the other ſingle ſtates and monarchies of Europe, there is a kind of identity or ſameneſs to be found in moſt of the above particulars, as well as in their religious and civil economy; which countries therefore do not require ſo particular an enlargement as Germany ſeemed abſolutely to demand.

The EUROPEAN TERRITORIES *of the* *STATES GENERAL of the UNITED NETHERLANDS.*

Notwithſtanding all that may be ſaid of the low, moiſt, and marſhy ſoil, and of the thick air of the far greater part of the ſeven United Provinces of the Netherlands, and of their heaths and barren ſandy downs, and that they in general are unable to afford ſufficient ſuſtenance, and leaſt of all corn, for their numerous inhabitants; yet ſuch diſadvantages may be ſaid to be well compenſated by their moſt extenſive foreign commerce and navigation, immenſe fiſheries, rich paſtures ſupplying vaſt quantities of excellent butter and cheeſe, of which great quantities are exported; the cheeſe, particularly of the Texel and Edam, being famous all over Europe. Holland has an infinite number of good ſheep, bearing excellent wool: in Guelderland grows tobacco, &c. and Zealand, good madder, and has ſalt made from ſea water; Zutphen alſo yields ſome iron ſtone. They have moſt convenient water carriage beyond any other country of Europe, and a happy ſituation for an eaſy communication with other nations.

The ſeven United Provinces, according to Dr. Buſching, contain one hundred and thirteen cities and towns, one thouſand four hundred villages, and about two millions of inhabitants; beſide the twenty-five towns, and the people in what is called the lands of the Generality, or conquered countries and towns of other parts of the Netherlands. The vaſt populouſneſs of the United Provinces, and eſpecially of that of Holland, beyond any other country in Europe of ſo ſmall an extent, is principally owing to the very great variety of their manufactures, fabrications, and other manual improvements, as well as to the great extent of their foreign commerce, navigation, and fiſheries, whereby ſuch numbers of people are employed and maintained at home, in numberleſs ways, ſuch as, their pottery, tobacco pipes, delft-ware, finely refined ſalt; their oil mills, ſtarch manufactures—their improvements of the raw linen thread of Germany—their hemp and fine paper manufactures—their fine linen and table damaſks—their ſaw mills for timber for ſhipping and houſes, in immenſe quantities—their great ſugar-baking—their vaſt woollen, cotton, and ſilk manufactures—wax bleaching—leather dreſſing,—the great quantity of their coin and ſpecie, aſſiſted by their banks, moſt eſpecially by that of Amſterdam—their Eaſt India trade—and their general induſtry and frugality. Yet we doubt it cannot be denied, that, great as their commerce, manufactures, and fiſheries are, they have, for ſome time, been in a retrograde ſtate; by ſome imputed to the too general relaxation of their priſtine frugality; though, by others, much more owing to the great improvements made by other nations, almoſt every where, in their commerce, navigation, manufactures, fiſheries, &c.

We ſhall begin with the moſt opulent province of Holland, and with

1. Dort, or Dordrecht, the firſt city, in point of ſeniority or precedency, of that province.

This city was the ancient place of reſidence of the Earls of Holland and Zealand. Doctor Buſching relates, that in the year 1732, it was computed to contain three thouſand nine hundred and fifty-four houſes, and eighteen thouſand inhabitants. It has a moſt commodious harbour and conſiderable

ſiderable trade, eſpecially in grain, Rheniſh and other wines, in timber brought rough down the Rhine in ſummer, and here, at its many mills, ſawed and prepared for various uſes.

2. Haarlem, the ſecond town, in point of precedence, of this province, enjoys a communication with Amſterdam and Leyden, by means of two ſpacious canals; and in the ſaid year 1732, contained ſeven thouſand nine hundred and ſixty-three houſes, and fifty thouſand inhabitants. Its manufactures of woollen cloth, ſilk, and linen, though ſtill conſiderable, are yet greatly declined from what they formerly were. It employs many people in the bleaching of their famous and fine linens, tapes and thread.

3. Delft, the third in rank, is a fine town, and in the ſaid year 1732, contained four thouſand eight hundred and ſeventy houſes and twenty-five thouſand inhabitants. This city is properly the arſenal for the whole province of Holland, having, for that end, four powder magazines. Its fine earthen ware is famous all over Europe; and it was formerly known for its woollen cloth and beer.

Delftſhaven, near it, is a large, flouriſhing town on the Maeſe, with a good harbour; at which lye the Eaſt India ſhips, herring-buſſes, &c. belonging to the city of Delft.

4. Leyden is the fourth in rank, and in magnitude is the largeſt and fineſt of the province, next after Amſterdam. It contained in the ſaid year 1732, ten thouſand eight hundred and ninety-one houſes, and, at only ſix perſons to each houſe, comprehends ſixty-five thouſand three hundred and forty-ſix perſons, yet others make them ſeventy thouſand. Doctor Buſching thinks its formerly celebrated woollen cloth manufactures, which annually amounted to one hundred thouſand pieces of cloths, ſtuffs, and camblets, are leſſening very much. Since the twelfth century, Leyden has been four times enlarged. Mr. Nugent reckons in it one hundred and eighty ſtreets. Its famous univerſity has ſometimes had two thouſand ſtudents, though uſually not near ſo many, and its orphan houſe contains nine hundred children.

5. Amſterdam, the fifth in rank, is, beyond compariſon, the firſt in commerce, opulence, and magnitude, of all theſe provinces. It is ſituated at the influx of the little river Amſtel, running through it; and although, by reaſon of the ſhallowneſs of the Pampus, (the only paſſage leading up to it out of the Zuyder Zee) it might be thought but indifferently ſituated for maritime commerce, as ſhips of burden muſt be lightened in order to paſs through it, and muſt afterward wait for an eaſterly or north-eaſt wind to go through the Marſdiep into the north ſea; yet ſo far the ſituation of Amſterdam is advantageous, that the other towns of the province can eaſily ſend their merchandize thither, and receive returns, and that, with a fair wind, it is but a few hours paſſage to or from all the ports of North Holland, Frieſland, Overyſſel, and Guelderland. In the ſame year 1732, its houſes were numbered, and amounted to thirty-two thouſand ſix hundred and eighty-five; and its inhabitants, according to Dr. Buſching, were at moſt two hundred thouſand.—That from 1747 to 1752, comprehending the ſpace of ſix years, the burials here were, at a medium, eight thouſand two hundred and forty-ſeven yearly. Now as in large and very populous cities, it is generally computed that one out of thirty perſons die annually, then, multiplying eight thouſand two hundred and forty-ſeven by thirty, the number of this city's inhabitants will come out to be two hundred and forty-ſeven thouſand four hundred and ten perſons, which comes much nearer the moſt uſual computation of Amſterdam's inhabitants, *i. e.* about two hundred and fifty or two hundred and ſixty thouſand perſons. Yet others, as we have ſeen, compute them no higher than two hundred and forty-one thouſand. The ſaid author thinks it the greateſt trading city in Europe; though poſſibly, all things conſidered, the city of London may merit the preference, more eſpecially in later times. To ſay that Amſterdam abounds in merchants, manufacturers, and artificers, is ſaying no more than

than what the famous astronomer, Copernicus, said of it two hundred and fifty years ago, when it was much less considerable; "That at Amsterdam all men were employed in trading." *Ubi nemo non Mercaturam exercet.* In Collier's Translation and Additions to Moreri's historical Dictionary, this great city is justly celebrated for its vast numbers of ships and seamen—its infinite quantities of all kinds of merchandize whatever, from all parts of the world—its fine canals and bridges, spacious and neat streets, piazzas and churches—its infinite magazines of naval stores—its docks and wharfs, and its store-houses of all kinds of merchandize, worthy of the highest admiration—her numerous hospitals, and other charitable foundations—her most famous bank, thought to contain the greatest treasure upon earth, (of which we have treated at large under the year 1609)—its most magnificent stadt-house, which, according to Sir William Temple, is thought to have cost in all about three millions sterling; and the beauties and architecture whereof have long since required, and have employed an entire volume fully to describe them.

6. Gouda, or Tergow, on the little river Gouwe, is the sixth city in rank. In the said year 1732, it contained three thousand nine hundred and seventy-four houses and twenty thousand people. Most of the vessels employed in the trade between Holland, Zealand, and the Austrian Netherlands, pass through this place, steering their course from the Gouwe into the Yssel, and through the latter into the Merwe. Thread, cordage, and tobacco pipes, are its proper manufactures.

7. Rotterdam is a large, opulent, and great commercial port and city, second to none in the province, in this respect, but to Amsterdam: it lies on the Maese, which here receives the Rotter. By the deep canals which run up into the heart of this city, ships of great burden lade and unlade at the merchants doors. It is, in a great degree, a staple for wines from France and Germany; and it is also the place of the greatest resort of shipping to and from Great Britain of any port of the Netherlands. Here are refiners of salt, and many manufacturers in glass. By means of the Rhine and Maese, this city also carries on a great inland commerce into Germany, and to the north parts of France. In 1732, its houses were computed to amount to six thousand six hundred and twenty-one, and its inhabitants to fifty-six thousand.

8. Gorcum, on the Merwe, the eighth town in rank, contained in the said year, only one thousand three hundred and ninety-eight houses, and six thousand six hundred people. It is a fortified town, and carries on a great trade in corn and salmon.

9. Schiedam, on the Maese, where the river Schie is by a sluice conveyed into it, contains one thousand five hundred and eighty-four houses, and eight thousand people; it has many herring busses, for the benefit whereof its people are much employed in making of nets.

10. Schonhoven, on the river Leck, has but two thousand five hundred inhabitants. And,

11. Briel, or Brill, on the isle of Voorne, near the mouth of the Maese, has about four thousand people. These two are indeed but inconsiderable towns, though they are both well fortified. And although these eleven towns are all that, in South Holland, are privileged to send deputies to the assembly of the states of the province of Holland, yet there are other good, and some strong towns, which have not that privilege.

1. The Hague is a large and beautiful town, though without either walls or gates: in the said year 1732, it was found to contain six thousand one hundred and sixty-four houses, many of which are finely built, beside its public and national edifices. It is a place of much public business and splendor, where the assemblies of the States General, the States of Holland, the Councils of State and of War, and many other national offices are kept, and where all foreign ambassadors and envoys usually reside. The Hague therefore being the seat of government, though no sea port, nor famed

for any particular manufacture, is a place abounding in all neceſſaries and conveniencies whatever, and has a great circulation of money, being indeed the moſt magnificent open town, or the moſt illuſtrious village in the known world, containing no leſs than fifty thouſand inhabitants: yet ſome compute twelve thouſand people leſs in number.

2. Vlardingen is a large town, ſituated on the Maeſe, from whence there ſail annually a greater number of herring buſſes than from all the other ports of the Netherlands: for in the year 1753, the total number of thoſe buſſes, from all the United Provinces, were one hundred and ſeventy-three, of which one hundred and twelve belonged to Vlardingen.

3. Maeſland-Sluice is a large village, on a branch of the Maeſe, whoſe inhabitants are chiefly employed in the herring and whale fiſheries.

The iſles belonging to South Holland, at or near the mouth of the rivers Maeſe and Leck, are Yſſelmond, Voorn, on which ſtands the ports of Briel and Helvoetſluyce, Stryen, Flaaque, and Goeree; none of which are conſiderable enough to require any particular deſcription.

North-Holland, otherwiſe called Weſt-Frieſland, is the much ſmaller part of the province, and contains the following principal places, viz.

1. Alkmaar, the firſt in point of rank, contained in the year 1732, two thouſand five hundred and eighty-one houſes, and fifteen thouſand people. It carries on a large trade in grain, fine cheeſe and butter.

2. Hoorne, on the Zuyder Sea, has a convenient harbour, and contained in 1732, two thouſand eight hundred and ſeventeen houſes, and about twelve thouſand inhabitants. Here is an Eaſt India chamber, and an admiralty college, held here alternately with Enkhuiſen and Medenblick, it is alſo the ſeat of the mint. Here alſo are ſhips of war as well as merchant ſhips built: it trades much in butter and cheeſe, and alſo with Denmark, from whence are brought back lean black cattle to be fattened in their rich paſtures.

3. Enkhuiſen, in 1732, contained two thouſand ſix hundred houſes and eleven thouſand inhabitants; it ſtands on the Zuyder Sea, and is well fortified. Here they build many ſhips, and from thence they formerly were wont to ſend out annually four or five hundred herring buſſes; but at preſent only ſixty on that fiſhery. Here is likewiſe an Eaſt India and Weſt India chamber, a cannon foundery, and ſalt works.

4. Edam, on the Zuyder Sea, has about one thouſand houſes, and four thouſand people, was once famous for its cheeſe. Its ſhip building and timber trade is conſiderable, and it has ſome ſalt works.

5. Monikendam, on the ſame ſea, is a decayed port, having about ſeven hundred houſes, and two thouſand people, its port is now choaked up with ſand.

6. Medenblik, on that ſea, and of about the ſame bigneſs, to appearance; its principal trade is in timber from Norway. It contains about two thouſand five hundred people.

7. Purmerend is the ſeventh and laſt of the voting towns of North-Holland, having about ſix hundred houſes, and about two thouſand inhabitants; its trade being in cheeſe and cattle.

Beſide theſe, there is,

8. Saidam, a large and wealthy town, on the Zuyder Sea, where many rich merchants reſide, and deal largely in timber, grain, and train oil: their ſhip building is very conſiderable, though not ſo vaſt as formerly, when it was ſaid to have been able to build as many ſhips in a year as there are days in it. Beyond all, it is moſt remarkable for the vaſt multitude and variety of its wind mills; as, ſaw-mills, oil-mills, peas-mills, colour-mills, paper-mills, fulling-mills, ſnuff-mills, coffee-mills, muſtard-mills, &c. ſo as to be really aſtoniſhing, if their number be ſo many, according to

 Dr.

Dr. Bufching, as two thoufand three hundred. This place too is alfo fo confiderable as to have in it printers and bookfellers.

The ifle of Texel is very near this continent, and is fertile in corn, and fheep with good wool. Here is a commodious road for fhipping, the rendezvous of all the Eaft India fhips from Amfterdam, Hoorn, and Enkhuifen, being fafe under the cannon of a fort, whilft waiting for their laft orders, or for a fair wind. The other ifles of Flieland, Schelling, &c. are inconfiderable, and are all fuppofed to have been once joined to the main land.

The province of Zealand confifts entirely of iflands, formed by the branches or fea ftreams of the river Scheldt, and were probably once joined to the province of Flanders. They are very fertile in excellent wheat, fruits, fine paftures covered with fine fheep. Here is plenty of all kinds of provifion and fifh, and are only wanting in fuel, with which, efpecially turf, they are forced to be fupplied from other provinces, and with coals from England in great quantities. The whole province contains eleven towns and one hundred and ten villages; and its people are efteemed the moft wealthy of all the Netherlands, owing to their happy and very convenient fituation for maritime commerce.

The ifle of Walcheren is the moft populous of thofe ifles, and contains three good trading towns, viz.

1. Middelburg, the capital of the whole province, is a large, fine, and ftrong city, and a place of great maritime commerce and fhipping, with a confiderable fhare of the Eaft and Weft India, and other trades. It has, at its harbour's entrance, the fort of Rammekins, which was one of the three cautionary places pawned to Queen Elizabeth: here are no fewer than twenty churches, and many rich merchants. It is the ftaple for the wines of France, Spain, and Portugal.

2. Flufhing is a well fortified and extremely well fituated town for maritime commerce, even beyond any other town in the Netherlands, having two harbours, the old one ferving for merchant fhips, the other is capable of admitting up to the town a fleet of eighty of the largeft fhips of war, and here is a large dock for fhipping.

3. Veere (called alfo Kampveer, Campveer, and Ter Veere) is fmaller than Flufhing, yet it enjoys a confiderable trade, more efpecially with Scotland, which has many of its people refiding here, with a church and minifter for their nation, paid by the States of Zealand: here is alfo a conful called the Judge Confervator of the Scotifh mercantile privileges in the Netherlands, which is, and for fome centuries paft has been, an office of dignity, and is always appointed by the King of Great Britain.

Neither Dr. Bufching, nor any other author we have met with, has given us the number of houfes or inhabitants in thefe Zealand cities: nor indeed in many other cities they pretend to defcribe in fundry other parts of Europe.

In this ifland are alfo many large villages.

South-Beveland is the largeft and pleafanteft of all the Zealand ifles: it has Goes, or Tergoes, a pretty good town, with a confiderable trade; and alfo many villages.

North-Beveland has only villages on it.

Schouwen has the very ancient town and port of Zirikfee, formerly a place of great commerce, by its fifhery, falt mines, and foreign trade: it has ftill about eighty fhips of its own, trading to Spain, Portugal, &c. its principal commodities confifting in falt, mead, and immenfe quantities of oyfters.

Duiveland has only villages on it.

Ter-Tholen has on it a town of the same name, being the fourth and last of the four towns of Zealand.

The province of Utrecht has the city of

1. Utrecht, for its capital, in a healthful situation, and is allowed to be a fine ancient city, situated on the channel of the old Rhine. It is strong and large, has many fine churches, and a noble university. Its market place or piazza is very fair, and is the center of several long streets, inhabited by many persons of rank and quality. Here is a good inland trade, and a manufacture for silk-throwing.

2. Amersfort stands on a navigable river falling into the Zuyder Sea, and is the next best town of this province; carries on a naval communication with Amsterdam, in German merchandize, brought to it by land carriage. Here are some newly established manufactures of dimity and bombazeen. In this province is produced much tobacco.

The province of Friesland resembles Holland in its many canals, (having undoubtedly been originally conjoined to it, before the irruption of the ocean into the place now termed the Zuyder Sea) and in the fertility of its soil. It has a greater proportion than Holland of good wheat and pulse, breeds large and excellent horses, of which great numbers are exported to Germany and other parts. It has eleven towns and three hundred and thirty-six villages, and is well known for its various woollen stuffs, and much more so for its linen, the finest in Europe, some of which, according to Dr. Busching, has been sold at twelve Dutch guilders, or about twenty shillings sterling, per ell. Its principal town and seat of government, is,

1. Leeuwarden, three miles in compass, having, by its many canals and streams, a considerable commerce with Holland, Embden, Bremen, and Hamburg, although it has no harbour.

2. Harlingen, a sea port, is its next best town; here is the admiralty college for this province; and it makes great quantities of salt.

3. Franeker is a handsome town and an university, though in point of commerce it is inconsiderable. as are all the other towns and villages, as also the two isles on its coast.

The adjoining province of Groningen very much resembles Friesland, in its soil, low situation, and its many canals and dykes. It has three towns and one hundred and sixty-five villages.

Groningen, its capital, is the seat of government, stands on the river Hunse, which brings large ships up to it. It has a good trade, is large, wealthy, and well inhabited, and has also an university. By means of its canals, the Dollert Sea, and the neighbouring river Ems, it has a considerable commerce. It contains three churches, twenty-seven spacious streets, and was formerly a Hans-town.

The country of Drenthe, south of and adjoining to this province, though it has no right to have any representatives to the States General, yet is under their protection. It is merely an inland and marshy country.

Assen, its chief town, is well built; and Coevorden is a very strong place, in the middle of a morass, near the frontier of Germany.

The province of Overyssel has sixteen towns and but eighteen villages; for, being more barren, it is not so well inhabited nor cultivated as most of the other provinces. Here are three of its towns that send representatives to the assembly of the States General, viz.

1. Deventer, on the Yssel, is a strong town, having four churches; it is populous, though not very large, is the seat of government, and has a very good trade: its beer is so very good, that a great deal of it is exported. Here is an iron foundery. It was originally one of the Hans-towns.

2. Zwoll

2. Zwolle is the fineſt and richeſt town in the province, has a naval communication and trade down the Yſſel into the Zuyder Sea, and is a very ſtrong place. Its chief trade is in timber. It was alſo formerly an Hans-town.

3. Kampen, or Campen, near the mouth of the Yſſel, is ſmaller than the other two towns; and, although it has ſtill ſome trade, yet its harbour on the Zuyder Sea is much choaked up, ſo that it is now a declining place, though it had formerly a conſiderable trade, and was a confederate of the Hanſeatic League.

The other places are inconſiderable.

The province of Dutch Guelderland, including in its appurtenance the county of Zutphen, has the beſt air of any of the Seven United Provinces, and its ſoil is moſtly good: its principal towns are,

1. Nimmegen, a ſtrong fortreſs on the river Waal, being the utmoſt eaſtern boundary of the Netherlands. It contains two Dutch churches, a French Calviniſt, and a Lutheran church; five Popiſh churches, and ſeveral hoſpitals. It was formerly an Hans-town and an imperial city. It is the ſeat of government, has a canal to Arnheim, and a good trade to ſome parts of Germany; it trades alſo in fine beer brewing, fattening of cattle, and exporting of its fine butter into all the other provinces.

2. 3. Bommel and Tiel lie on the Waal, but are both decayed and inconſiderable places.

4. Zutphen is a large and ſtrong town on both ſides the Yſſel; it was formerly a Hans-town, and had a great trade, but is ſince ſomewhat decayed. It now contains five Proteſtant churches and one Popiſh church, a gymnaſium or great ſchool, ſeveral hoſpitals and other charitable foundations and public edifices.

5. Arnheim is a ſtrong town on the Rhine, containing three Dutch Calviniſt churches, and one Lutheran church; but in reſpect of commerce, it is much decayed from what it once was.

6. Harderwyk, a port-town on the Zuyder Sea, and an univerſity. This is alſo a decayed town, yet ſtill carries on a conſiderable trade in corn, timber, and the fiſheries.

Theſe three laſt-named towns have ſcarcely recovered the damages done by the French in the year 1672.

The Generality Lands are ſuch parts of the other provinces as the ſeven United Provinces have ſubdued by their joint arms; and therefore have this name given them, as belonging jointly to all the United Netherlands.

1. In Dutch Brabant is the quarter of Bois le Duc, as the French call it, or, in Dutch, Hertogenboſch. It is a ſtrong and moderately large town, on a navigable river which runs into the Scheldt at Fort Crevecoeur. Its trade and navigation are conſiderable, which are much aſſiſted by the many canals in its neighbourhood.

2. Oſterwyk quarter is much employed in the woollen manufactures; and the town of that name has ſix villages in its precinct.

3. Eindhoven is an open town, chiefly employed in the woollen manufacture; which, as well as Grave and Ravenſtein, belong to the Prince of Orange.

4. Breda, a fortified town, containing, according to Dr. Buſching, fifteen hundred houſes, though other writers are of opinion that it contains many more. It belongs to the Prince of Orange; but, although it has a communication with the ſea, by a ſmall navigable river, its commerce and woollen manufactures are greatly decayed.

5. The lordſhip and ſtrong little town of Willemſtadt has only about one hundred houſes in it, though a good ſea-port. It belongs alſo to the Prince of Orange; as does likewiſe Steenbergen, another ſtrong little town of about one hundred and fifty houſes.

Bergen-

Bergen-op-Zoom is a very ſtrongly fortified town, with eleven hundred houſes. It communicates with the river Scheldt by the means of its good harbour. Although the marquiſate or territory of Bergen-op-Zoom belongs to the Elector Palatine, yet the town itſelf is ſubject to the States-General of the United Provinces.

Fort Frederick-Henry and Fort Lillo, are on the banks of the Scheldt, below Antwerp.

Maeſtricht, in the biſhopric of Liege, on both ſides the river Maeſe, is one of the ſtrongeſt fortreſſes belonging to the States General: that part of it ſtanding on the right of the Scheldt is called Wyk, and is joined to Maeſtricht by a grand fortified ſtone-bridge. It is one of the principal keys of the Maeſe. The houſes within its walls are about three thouſand. Its woollen manufactures, once ſo conſiderable, are now much decayed. The ſovereignty of the town belongs jointly to the States General and the Biſhop of Liege. It contains four Proteſtant churches, and ſix Popiſh ones, eight convents of Monks, eleven nunneries, and a college; with ſeveral other fine public edifices. Its magiſtracy conſiſts of an equal number of Calviniſts and Romaniſts, and the latter muſt be natives of the biſhopric of Liege.

Valkenburg, Kolduc, and Dalem, three ſmall towns in the dutchy of Limburg, belong partly to the States General, with part of their dependencies, though but of little importance; as does likewiſe a part of what is called the Upper Quarter of Guelderland, viz.

1. Venlo, a ſtrong town on the Maeſe, containing about nine hundred houſes, but nothing of commerce.

2. Stevenſwaerd, a ſtrong fort on an iſland in the Maeſe, for preſerving the communication between Venlo and Maeſtricht.

Dutch Flanders contains Sluys, its largeſt town. It was formerly the proper ſea-port of Bruges; but when it fell into the hands of the Dutch, the Brugians dug a canal from their city to Oſtend, and thereby made the latter their ſea-port. The once famous harbour of Sluys is now ſo choaked up as to admit only ſmall veſſels: and its air is ſo unhealthy, that the Dutch garriſon is changed every year. The iſle of Cadzant, on this coaſt, has been partly ſwept away by the ſea; but what remains is now fenced with ſtrong dykes, and yields excellent wheat. On it are ſettled great numbers of French and Saltſburg refugees.

2. Biervliet, a ſmall town on the Weſt Scheldt, is now much fallen from its ancient greatneſs, by inundations.

3. In the bailiage of Hulſt ſtand the ſmall towns of Hulſt and Axel, both well fortified.

4. Sas van Ghent is a ſmall fortreſs on a branch of the Weſtern Scheldt, below the city of Ghent. Here alſo are numbers of other inconſiderable places belonging to the Dutch.

☞ By the barrier-treaty between the Emperor and the States General, in the year 1715, the Dutch were to garriſon Namur, Tournay, Menin, Furnes, Ypres, Warneton, and Fort Knoque; and the ſaid two potentates agreed to keep up forty thouſand men therein, on the probability of a war, and more if an actual war, but that treaty was little regarded on either ſide.

The KINGDOMS of GREAT-BRITAIN and IRELAND.

The Iſland of Great Britain may be conſidered both in a geographical and commercial ſenſe, as comprehending two diſtinct parts, viz. England, the richer and greater; and Scotland, the ſmaller and leſs conſiderable part: although in a legal and political ſenſe, thoſe two parts have been indiſſolubly united ever ſince the year 1707.

I. Eng-

I. England is the more level and fertile part of this noble iſland, and Scotland more mountainous and in its northern and north-weſtern parts more cold and barren, though enjoying a pure and healthy air.

England is often ſubject to damps, fogs, and much variable weather; yet the country is uncommonly fertile, almoſt always abounding in plenty of corn, and excellent vegetables and fruit; in cyder, perry, ſaffron, liquorice, woad, excellent timber both for houſe and ſhip-building, as alſo for fuel; almoſt inexhauſtible pit-coal; the fineſt paſtures, horſes, and horned cattle; and ſheep, a moſt profitable article beyond any other, on account of the nobleſt manufacture upon earth. The mines and manufactures of England are alſo very conſiderable, and the latter continually increaſing; and her tin mines of Cornwall have not their parallel in any other part of Europe, nor perhaps in the whole world. In her mountains are found marble, alabaſter, chryſtal, alum, and vitriol, her ſea-coaſts and rivers abound in the greateſt quantities of the beſt kinds of fiſh.

II. In Scotland they are making many improvements in agriculture, and in the greater production of hemp and flax, for the further increaſingtheir already extenſive very fine and valuable linen manufacture. It alſo abounds in horned cattle, ſheep, and a ſmaller breed of hardy horſes, in vaſt quantities of pit-coal, though not equal to that of England; and in plenty of lead, of ſalmon in its rivers, and an inexhauſtible abundance of fiſh in her ſeas.

III. Ireland, though abounding in lakes and bogs, is nevertheleſs a noble iſland. Its agriculture is greatly improved, and its cultivation of hemp, and yet more of flax, is become very conſiderable; alſo her linen manufacture is grown almoſt to be a prodigy, even in the ſpace of a few years.

Dr. Buſching makes the inhabitants of Great Britain amount to nine millions, which is probably near the truth; and the people of Ireland are nearly computed at two millions two hundred and fifty thouſand.

The foreign commerce of England is immenſe.

England.

1. To Turkey, England ſends woollen cloths, tin, lead, and iron, ſolely in her own ſhipping; and brings from thence raw-ſilk, carpets, galls, and other dying drugs, cotton, fruits, medicinal drugs, coffee, &c. Dr. Buſching relates, that a very eminent Turkey merchant at London aſſured him, "that the balance of this trade in England's favour was, to his certain knowledge, near ſix "hundred thouſand pounds per annum;" which we heartily wiſh may be true, though we have too much ground to doubt it.

2. To Italy, England exports woollen goods of various kinds, peltry, leather, lead, tin, fiſh, and Eaſt India goods; and brings back raw and thrown ſilk, wines, oil, ſoap, olives, oranges, lemons, pomegranates, dried fruits, colours, anchovies, &c. And the ſame author thinks, the balance of this trade, in favour of Italy, cannot be leſs than two hundred thouſand pounds per annum.

3. To Spain, England ſends all kinds of woollen goods, leather, lead, tin, fiſh, corn, iron and braſs manufactures, haberdaſhery wares, aſſortments of linen from Germany and elſewhere for her American colonies; and receives in return, wines, oils, dried fruits, oranges, lemons, olives, wools, indigo, cochineal and other dying drugs, colours, gold and ſilver coins, &c. And is, without doubt, a gainful trade for England, though leſs ſo than it was formerly, before other nations, and more eſpecially France, interfered ſo much of late years.

4. To

4. To Portugal, England ſends moſtly the ſame kinds of merchandize as to Spain: and makes returns in vaſt quantities of wines, with oils, ſalt, dried and moiſt fruits, dying drugs, and gold coins; and, undoubtedly much to the advantage of England.

5. To France, England ſends tobacco, lead, tin, flannels, horns, hardware, Mancheſter goods, &c. &c. and ſometimes corn; and brings home, wines, brandies, linen, cambricks, lace, velvets, brocades, &c.

☞ As a commercial treaty has ſo lately taken place between the two kingdoms, it is impoſſible to ſtate the relative operations of it, and the balance of profit and loſs to either country.

6. To Flanders, England ſends ſerges, flannels, tin, lead, ſugars, and tobacco; and makes returns in fine lace, linen, cambricks, &c. to England's diſadvantage, according to Dr. Buſching, to the amount of two hundred and fifty thouſand pounds ſterling yearly.

7. To Germany, England ſends cloth and ſtuffs, tin, pewter, ſugars, tobacco, and Eaſt India merchandize: and brings from thence vaſt quantities of linen, thread, goat-ſkins, tinned plates, timbers for all uſes, wines, and many other articles: and Dr. Buſching thinks the balance againſt England may amount annually to five hundred thouſand pounds.

8. To Norway, England ſends a ſmall quantity of tobacco, and of woollen ſtuffs; and, it is ſaid, one hundred and fifty thouſand pounds in money; and brings from thence vaſt quantities of deal and other timber.

9. To Sweden, England ſends ſome few manufactures, and about two hundred thouſand pounds annually in money; and brings back from thence much iron, timber, tar, copper, &c.

10. To Ruſſia, England ſends much woollen cloth and ſtuffs, tin, lead, tobacco, diamonds, houſhold furniture, &c. and makes return in hemp, flax, linen, thread, furs, pot-aſh, iron, wax, tallow, &c. And by this trade England loſes, according to the opinion of ſome, four hundred thouſand pounds annually.

11. To Holland, England ſends an immenſe quantity of many ſorts of merchandize; ſuch as all kinds of woollen goods, hides, corn, coals, Eaſt India and Turkey merchandize, tobacco, tar, ſugar, rice, ginger, and other American productions: and makes return in fine linen, lace, cambricks, thread, tapes, incle, madder, boards, drugs, whalebone, train-oil, toys, and many other things. And the balance is uſually ſuppoſed to be much in favour of England.

12. To Ireland, England ſends almoſt all kinds of merchandize, linen and woollen ſtuffs and proviſions alone excepted; and, doubtleſs, reaps great advantage thereby. Although, of late years, Ireland's great and increaſing importations of linen into England, may, in time, turn the balance againſt England, notwithſtanding the great ſums of money ſpent in England by Ireland's abſentees. Ireland moreover enjoys the benefit of a direct commerce to moſt parts of Europe, viz. with the Netherlands, France, Spain, and Portugal, with her hides, tallow, ſalted beef, pork, and butter. The returns whereof helps to pay England what they have from thence.

13. To America, England ſends her product and manufactures of almoſt every kind; and from thence ſhe returns with tobacco, ſugars, rice, ginger, indigo, drugs, logwood, timber, &c.

14. To the Coaſt of Guinea, England ſends various ſorts of coarſe woollen and linen, iron, pewter, braſs, and hardware manufactures, lead-ſhot, ſwords, knives, fire-arms, gunpowder, glaſs manufactures, &c. And, beſide its drawing no money out of the kingdom, it ſupplies her American colonies with negro ſlaves, amounting in number to one hundred thouſand annually; and moreover brings home to England gold-duſt, dying, and other drugs, red-wood, Guinea grains, ivory, &c. This trade therefore is extremely profitable to England.

To

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To Arabia, Persia, East India, and China, England sends much foreign silver coin and bullion, and English manufactures of woollen goods, and of lead, iron, and brass; and brings home from those remote regions, muslins and cottons of many various kinds, calicoes, raw and wrought silk, chintz, teas, porcelain, gold-dust, coffee, saltpetre, and many other drugs, &c. And so great a quantity of those various merchandize are re-exported to foreign European nations, as more than abundantly compensates for all the silver bullion which England carries out.

In order for a description of its several parts, we shall begin with

I. Cornwall:—This county's mountains supply an immense quantity of excellent tin, and also some copper.—Its best towns are, Falmouth, a pretty modern town, and though become of later years larger than most other towns of this county, yet sends no members to Parliament. It has a good harbour, some foreign commerce, and is finely situated for the station of the packet-boats to Spain and Portugal.—Penzance is a well-built and populous sea-port town, of considerable commerce —And the same may be said of Truro, it having three parish churches.—Launceston, though the county town, is somewhat decayed. A neighbouring hill is famous for its Cornish diamonds.—Westward from the Land's End lie the isles of Scilly, six in number, St. Mary's is the best and most fertile of them, and has a good harbour.

II. Devonshire has both tin and lead mines, with manufactures of the finest serges or perpetuanos, kersies, bonelace, and excellent cyder.—Plymouth, is a large town, with a noble harbour, a large royal dock for ships of war, a royal citadel, and other forts and batteries; and with the buildings and people, and its extensive dock, may probably contain about twenty thousand people.—Dartmouth is a flourishing port of trade, with a good fortified harbour. These two lie on the English Channel.—Biddeford, on the British Channel, and Barnstaple, near it, are both handsome seaport towns, with good harbours; the former chiefly trades in fish, the latter in wines.

Exeter is a large, opulent, and ancient commercial city, on the river Ex, containing twenty-two churches and chapels, five meeting-houses, and several hospitals and other charity foundations, containing about twenty thousand inhabitants. It is eminent for its great trade in fine perpetuanos and serges, to the value, as commonly said, of six hundred thousand pounds per annum, and has also a good foreign commerce. Mr. Salmon, in his Modern Gazetteer, observes, "That it is generally stiled the London of the West, there being no city between that and the Land's End, which lies about one hundred miles west of it." Ships of one hundred and fifty tons may unlade at its quay, but larger ones lie at Topsham, three miles down the river.—Torrington's trade is considerable to Ireland.—Lundy-Isle, in the British Channel, though five miles in length, and two in breadth, is surrounded with rocks, and of no importance.

III. Dorsetshire abounds in corn, cattle, sheep, hemp, flax, and timber; so pleasant a county, as to have been sometimes stiled the Garden of England.—Lyme is a decayed sea-port.—Bridport is chiefly famous for the great quantities of cordage and match for the navy.—Weymouth and Melcombe-Regis, are two populous sea-port towns joined together by a bridge over the little river Wey. They carry on a considerable foreign commerce, and are under one magistracy, though each of them sends two representatives to Parliament.—Dorchester, the county-town, is large, though an inland town; and, for six miles round it, the country has been said to feed six hundred thousand sheep.—Pool is a considerable port for shipping and commerce, chiefly in the Newfoundland fishery. Its oysters are reckoned the best and largest in Great Britain.—Blandford, a well-built inland town, surpasses all England in fine lace, has some woollen manufactures, and is famous for good malt.—Shaftsbury, a good town, with four parish churches.—Sherborn, a large town, containing thirteen

hundred houses, and upwards of ten thousand inhabitants. Its modern manufactures are buttons, lace, and haberdashery wares, wherein it carries on a good trade.

IV. Somersetshire lies on the Bristol Channel; it abounds in corn, fine cattle, sheep, lead, copper, lapis calaminaris, woad for dyers, and Bristol stones, resembling diamonds. Its manufactures are very important, consisting of fine cloths, serges, and druggets: it is also famous for the best and largest cheeses, by some esteemed equal to Parmesan cheese, and also for cyder.—Its best towns are, Bridgwater, a place of considerable commerce, and about four thousand inhabitants.—Taunton, a much larger town, on the river Tone, navigable from thence to Bridgwater; it contains about twenty thousand inhabitants, many of whom are wealthy, as this place has very considerable manufactures of serges, druggets, and other woollen stuffs.—The small city of Wells has about four thousand inhabitants: it lies at the foot of Mendip-Hills, famous for their lead mines. Bone lace, and the knitting of stockings and caps are its only manufactures.—Froom, or Frome, is a fine and large woollen manufacturing town, of thirteen thousand inhabitants.

V. The renowned commercial city of Bristol is separated by the river Avon, between the two counties of Somerset and Gloucester; yet, being a county of itself, it is no part of either of those counties. A considerable part of it lies on the south-side of that river, and a still larger part on the north-side of it; having a communication by three stone bridges, and also by a draw-bridge for letting of ships up into the harbour, called the Back, or the little river stiled the Froom. It is by far the largest city in Britain, next after London; containing above thirteen thousand houses, and about one hundred thousand inhabitants; both which are constantly increasing. It is said by some to employ two thousand maritime vessels of all sizes, coasters, as well as ships employed in foreign voyages. It has many very important manufactures; its glass-bottle and drinking-glass manufactories alone occupying fifteen large houses. Its brass-wire manufactures are also very considerable. It contains twenty-one churches, beside its cathedral, and seven or eight meeting-houses; has a most extensive quay, with dock-yards, &c. for ship-building; several good hospitals, in all eighteen in number, and many alms-houses, and other charitable foundations: so that this city, for its prudent regulations, is perhaps out-done by none, and for its vast commerce, wealth, and shipping, by very few trading cities in all Europe.

Bath is a place of no commerce nor manufactures; wherefore we pass it over, as well as several other inconsiderable places in this and other counties.

VI. Wiltshire is a fertile county, greatly abounding in woollen manufactures, more especially at the towns of Chippenham, Malmsbury, Calne, Devizes, Bradford, Trowbridge, Westbury, Marlborough, Warminster, as also at many populous villages.

Salisbury is a fine and well-built city, having a fine town-house, a spacious market-place, a noble cathedral, four other churches, and about ten thousand inhabitants. Here are several flourishing manufactures, particularly fine flannels, long-cloths, called Salisbury whites, for the Turkey trade; also druggets and bone-lace.—Devizes, a neat and flourishing town, eminent for its woollen manufactures, has three churches, and six thousand inhabitants.—And Marlborough, another woollen-manufacturing town, of two churches, and near as populous as the Devizes.

VII. Hampshire, on the English Channel, abounds in corn, wool, iron, and timber. Ringwood and Fordingbridge are both good woollen manufacturing towns.

1. Winchester is a very ancient but decayed city, occasioned through many disasters in old times: it is about a mile and an half in circuit; has a cathedral and six parish churches, (though formerly it had thirty-two parish churches, so that there is now much void ground within its walls) a fine college for the education of youth for the university, three charity-schools, a palace begun, but never finished,

finished, by King Charles the Second, and going to ruin. Here is an hospital and an infirmary, yet here are scarcely any manufactures of consequence; but it has still a considerable trade in wool-stapling. The city is well frequented by genteel company.

2. Andover is a populous town, abounding in woollen manufactures, particularly fine shalloons. It deals largely in malt; and its famous annual fair, named Weyhill, is most eminent for hops, sheep, and cheese.

3. Portsmouth is a regularly fortified and most famous sea-port town. It has a very spacious harbour, in which a thousand ships may ride at anchor, a most extensive dock-yard, for the construction and repairs of the royal navy, fine rope-yards, vast store-houses, a cooperage, victualling-office, gun-wharf, most convenient houses also for the numerous officers and master-workmen; all which form a kind of distinct town; and the adjoining streets on the place called the Common, form another considerable town. Moreover, the town of Gosport, entirely depending on Portsmouth, and lying on the south-side of the harbour, forms also a considerable town: so that the whole taken together, may be fairly presumed to contain at least twenty thousand people; above one thousand men being constantly kept in the King's pay in and about the harbour.

4. Southampton is a large and beautiful town, and was formerly a very flourishing town and sea-port, containing five parishes. Its principal trade at present is with the isles of Jersey and Guernsey, and in French and Port wines.

The Isle of Wight is a part of Hampshire. Its most thriving and increasing sea-port town is Cowes, where, in time of war, is the rendezvous of merchant-ships waiting for convoy.

VIII. Opposite to Hampshire, southward, lie the isles of Jersey, Guernsey, Alderney, and Sark, on the coast, and in sight of Normandy, being all that remains to England of that large dutchy.—Dr. Busching was misled in saying, that those islands belong to Hampshire, they being entirely independent of any county, and are governed by their own ancient laws and customs, under a chief governor, appointed by his Britannic Majesty. They live happily under the dominion of England, are well defended by forts, batteries, and ledges of rocks; and in all of them together there are about twenty-four parishes, forty thousand inhabitants, and a few small towns trading in wines, coarse woollen stockings, &c. and have plenty of corn, fish, and cyder.

IX. Berkshire, a delightful and fruitful country.

1. Reading, its county town, on the Thames, is large and wealthy, has three churches, and as many meeting-houses. It contains about eight thousand people, and carries on a great trade with London in malt and flour.

2. Abingdon is a good town, eminent for its corn market, and the vast quantities of malt with which, by means of the Thames, it supplies London.

3. Newbury deals also in malt, and has still some woollen manufactures, although the bulk of them is long since removed further west.

4. Windsor is a handsome market-town, on the Thames, plentifully supplied with all necessaries, but chiefly eminent for its royal palace, forest, and park.

X. Surrey is a pleasant county. Guildford being its reputed county town, standing on the river Wey, which being navigable from it to the Thames, serves to convey much ship-timber, &c. to London. It has three churches, a meeting-house, three charity-schools, and other charity foundations, and is a well-built town.—Kingston upon Thames, is a large market-town:—And Richmond, a delightful royal villa, with a fine park, gardens, &c.—Southwark, though usually deemed a part of the great contiguity of London, or one of its great suburbs, yet is within this county; and its contiguity stretches along the Thames from Deptford-bridge to Vauxhall, above six miles in length,

length, though very narrow in ſome parts, containing very many opulent people, and many thouſands of induſtrious inhabitants, and various manufacturers.

XI. Suſſex, on the Engliſh Channel, oppoſite to France, is abundant in fine oak timber, and in iron mines, worked with very great benefit.—Chicheſter is its chief town, having a cathedral and five pariſh churches. Its principal trade is in corn for exportation, and in malt and needles. Its harbour is neither good nor large; and has not much foreign trade. It is eſteemed a well-built city.

Lewes is a conſiderably large town, with ſix pariſh churches; and along its river are ſeveral iron-works and founderies for cannon.

XII. Kent, a noble and fertile county.

Canterbury, its ancient capital, is a decayed city, having a fine cathedral, and fourteen pariſh churches. Here are ſtill ſome ſilk manufactures carried on by the poſterity of the Walloons, and of the French refugees. It has ſeveral fine remains of ſtately eccleſiaſtical buildings, with part of its ancient walls: poſſibly there may be near twenty thouſand people ſtill left in it. Its neighbourhood is noted for the beſt brawn, and alſo for great quantities of excellent hops.

Sandwich is a greatly decayed ſea-port, its harbour being much choaked up with ſand, yet it has ſtill ſome coaſting trade; has three churches, three hoſpitals, and five charity-ſchools, a cuſtom-houſe, and a quay; and has ſtill a woollen cloth manufactory.

Deal is within little more than a century paſt become a large town, occaſioned by the ſhipping uſually ſtopping in the Downs; yet it has no harbour, but merely an open beach.

Dover, an ancient and open ſea-port, oppoſite to that of Calais in France. Its harbour is a dry one, and is only capable, at high-water, of receiving middling merchant-ſhips. Of its ancient ſeven pariſh churches two only remain. Here is a cuſtom-houſe, and a victualling-office for the royal navy; yet it is a place of no conſiderable foreign commerce. Its huge caſtle ſtands too high to do much execution againſt ſhipping. Here are held the courts relating to the Cinque Ports, it being the chief of them. In time of peace packet-boats go twice every week to Calais and Oſtend, with the French and Auſtrian mails.

Sheerneſs is a regular fortreſs, having ſome few ſtreets within it. It commands the entrance into the river Medway; and the channel here is ſo ſoft and deep, as to be deemed one of the moſt commodious ſtations upon earth for a royal navy.

Rocheſter city is at beſt but a mean place, having only one church, a town-houſe, a mathematical ſchool, and an alms-houſe: yet if the adjoining town of Chatham, with its dock-yards and vaſt ſtore-houſes for the equipment of the royal navy be included, together with the town of Stroud, at the further end of its fine bridge, thoſe three places, collectively, may very well be deemed to contain twenty thouſand inhabitants.

Chatham is the principal dock-yard for the royal navy, being ſupplied with immenſe quantities of all kinds of naval ſtores, and whatever elſe may be requiſite for the equipment of a royal fleet. It has an ordnance-office, a victualling-office, and an hoſpital; with handſome and convenient houſes for the ſeveral officers. And the entire œconomy here is ſo much improved of late years, that it may be pronounced truly admirable.

Woolwich, on the Thames, has alſo a royal dock-yard for the King's ſhips, and an eminent foundery and vaſt magazine for cannon, mortars, bomb-ſhells, and bullets. Here alſo is a royal artillery academy, with a conſtant artillery-guard, and houſes for the officers, in the place called the Warren.

Deptford,

Deptford, alſo neater London, formerly called Weſt Greenwich, is become a large and populous town, entirely raiſed by its noble dock-yard for the building and repairing his Majeſty's ſhips. It contains two churches, a meeting-houſe, a college for the Corporation of the Trinity-houſe for pilots and pilotage; a moſt uſeful inſtitution. This lately-raiſed town contains more houſes and people than are to be found in ſome cities.

Greenwich, late a royal village, now a market-town, nearly adjoining to Deptford, is no otherwiſe eminent than as it contains the moſt beautiful hoſpital upon earth, for the reception of ſuperannuated mariners, who have ſerved in the royal navy; and we wiſh that charity could be fully extended to all maimed and worn-out mariners, throughout the Britiſh dominions, in the merchants ſervice.

Ramſgate, near the Downs, is a ſmall harbour, for the improvement whereof ſuch immenſe ſums have been expended of late years, though hitherto to little effect.

☞ The pier which is now finiſhed, and is a moſt ſtupendous piece of maſonry, does not anſwer the good effects which were expected to be derived from it, on account of the continual influx of ſand which choaks up the harbour.

Maidſtone is a genteel and conſiderable town, ſituated on the Medway, near Rocheſter. It deals very much in hops, makes a great deal of linen thread, and its neighbourhood produces great numbers of the fineſt and largeſt cattle, and greatly abounds in corn, cherries, and other fruits.

XIII. Middleſex is a ſmall but pleaſant and fertile county.

London, its auguſt and matchleſs capital, is not to be deſcribed in leſs than a large folio volume: yet we may ſummarily obſerve, that it contains one hundred and twenty-eight pariſh churches, and near as many Proteſtant diſſenting meeting-houſes and chapels of various denominations, beſide nineteen foreign churches and Popiſh chapels, and three Jews ſynagogues. It contains three colleges, twenty hoſpitals and infirmaries, and near an hundred alms-houſes; fifteen colleges, called Inns, for lawyers, thirty ſquares, three bridges, ten public priſons, forty-nine halls for livery companies, eight public or free grammar ſchools, and one hundred and thirty-one charity-ſchools, which educate five thouſand and thirty-four poor children. In point of opulence, commerce, populouſneſs, and extent, including Weſtminſter and all its other ſuburbs, we apprehend it may fairly be deemed the firſt city in Chriſtendom, if not on the whole earth: its extent from eaſt to weſt is generally allowed to be above ſeven miles, and its circumference near eighteen; the number of dwelling-houſes, from a late computation, are ſaid to be about one hundred and thirty-five thouſand, and its inhabitants upwards of one million.

Brentford, on the Thames, is a large market-town: and there are in this county great numbers of large and beautiful villages on every ſide, chiefly filled with country houſes of perſons of quality and diſtinction, merchants, and wealthy citizens, in far greater numbers than the environs of Paris, or of any other metropolis in Europe.

XIV. Eſſex abounds with the fineſt manufacture of bays, and with fine ſaffron, and oyſters.

Colcheſter, its chief town, is an ancient, large, and populous place, with a harbour for ſmall veſſels, ſhips of burden being obliged to load and unload three miles below the town. It has long been eminent for its fine manufactures of bays and ſerges, in which manufactures this ſingle town has been ſaid formerly to have returned one million five hundred thouſand pounds annually; and for excellent barrelled oyſters, ſent to many diſtant parts. It contains eight pariſh churches, five diſſenting meeting-houſes, three hoſpitals, and alms-houſes, two grammar-ſchools, a free-ſchool, two charity-ſchools, a work-houſe and other public edifices; and in the town and its liberties they reckon no fewer than twenty thouſand people.

Harwich is a ſmall but handſome ſea-port, having an excellent harbour, defended by Landguard Fort on the Suffolk ſide. Here is a dock-yard for ſhip-building, with ſtorehouſes, &c. It is the ſtation for the packet boats between England and Holland, yet there is very little foreign commerce carried on here.

Cogſhall and other ſmall places in this county are alſo famous for their manufactures of bays.

XV. Suffolk produces hemp, and all ſorts of grain and excellent cattle.

Ipſwich, its capital, is an antient decayed town, although it has ſtill twelve pariſh churches, two chapels, a free-ſchool, a harbour and yard for ſhip-building. It alſo retains ſome woollen and linen manufactures.

Sudbury was one of the firſt places where King Edward III. eſtabliſhed his new woollen manufactures; where they are ſtill well kept up. It has three pariſh churches.

Bury, or St. Edmund's Bury, is a moſt pleaſant and regular town, with two large churches, two charity-ſchools, and a Latin ſchool. Its wholeſome air occaſions its being inhabited by many gentry, being by ſome called the Montpelier of England. But its only manufacture is the ſpinning of woollen and worſteds.

Woodbridge is a ſea-port of ſome maritime trade to Holland, Newcaſtle, and London, in timber, cordage, corn, ſalt, hemp, butter, cheeſe, &c.

XVI. Norfolk produces corn, wool, honey, and ſaffron; and its chief manufactures are fine woollen, and half-ſilk ſtuffs, and ſtockings.

1. Norwich is its ancient, large, and populous metropolis, the center of all the manufactures and inland commerce of this county. It contains a cathedral, thirty-four pariſh-churches, and ſeveral diſſenting meeting-houſes, beſide two churches for the Walloons and Flemings, whoſe privileges are inviolably continued to them. The worſted manufacture, for which this city has long been famous, and in which even children earn their bread, was firſt introduced by the Flemings in the reign of Edward III. and afterwards very much improved by the Dutch Walloons, who fled hither from the perſecution of the Duke d'Alva, and were encouraged to ſettle here by Queen Elizabeth: To theſe perſecuted people the inhabitants are principally indebted for the great increaſe of its fine light manufactures, they alſo taught them to make ſays, bays, ſerges, ſhalloons, and many other kinds of ſtuffs, and to weave camblets, crapes, druggets, &c. in which they are now ſaid to return two hundred thouſand pounds annually, and to employ one hundred thouſand perſons, many thouſand packs of wool being ſpun in the neighbouring counties. The inhabitants of Norwich are computed to amount to forty-five thouſand, and its houſes to about eight thouſand. Here are the remains of a palace, and a caſtle, now the county goal, alſo a guild-hall, a ſhire-hall, four hoſpitals, a free grammar ſchool, twelve charity-ſchools, ſix bridges croſs the river Yare, with many good edifices. This city is of great ſervice to Yarmouth, is proper ſea-port, not only for exporting its excellent ſtuffs, &c. manufactures, beyond ſea and to London, but likewiſe by the vaſt quantities of wine, oils, coals, fiſh, and other heavy goods, which ſo populous a manufacturing city as Norwich conſtantly conſumes.

2. Yarmouth is a handſome and populous town, with a good harbour, and one of the fineſt quays in all Europe. Its herring fiſhery is very great, employing upwards of two hundred veſſels therein, about fifty of which are uſually laden to Genoa, Leghorn, Naples, Meſſina, Portugal, Spain, and Venice, from hence alſo are exported all kinds of ſtuffs made at Norwich and other parts, to Holland, Germany, Sweden, Norway, Spain, &c. It has alſo lately entered pretty much into the Greenland fiſhery, and ſends out ſeveral ſhips annually; two or three large veſſels are likewiſe fitted out for the Weſt India trade. Yarmouth imports from Norway and the ports of the Baltic, pitch, tar,

tar, timber, hemp, flax, iron, &c. and ever since the decline of Ipswich, has been the principal rendezvous of the Newcastle colliers and other shipping passing between the north and south parts. It also deals considerably in coals and malt. It was formerly reckoned to have eleven hundred ships of its own; but the entrance of the harbour is so frequently choaked with sand after strong easterly winds, that all heavy vessels are obliged to be lightened before they can enter. Here is a fine town-house and custom-house, and many handsome buildings belonging to merchants.

3. Lynn, or Lynn-Regis, otherwise called King's Lynn, is a handsome, wealthy, and populous sea-port town, with considerable shipping and commerce, situated at the mouth of the river Ouse; and may contain about two thousand four hundred houses, three churches, a chapel, a free-school, a work-house, two hospitals, two public libraries, two dissenting meeting-houses, and an exchange, a custom-house, and a quay for shipping. There are several other smaller towns in Norfolk, which are chiefly noted for woollen stuffs.

Both in Norfolk and Suffolk the sea has encroached on some of their ancient sea-port fishing towns, now much decayed, whilst many other inland towns are much increased by their woollen manufactures.

XVII. Cambridgeshire, and what is called the Isle of Ely, though in no other sense an isle than in its being in a very marshy country surrounded by the Ouse and other waters, are chiefly known for very good pasturage, corn, and saffron.

1. Cambridge, is a large town, in a fertile but damp and flat situation. The description of its noble university is not properly within our present province. The town has several parish churches and owes its greatness entirely to the University.

2. Wisbeach, a sea-port town, has some shipping and foreign commerce.

As for Ely, though a bishop's see, it is not a city, because not a corporation; but a mere village, in a waterish and unhealthy situation.

XVIII. Huntingdonshire is partly marshy, though with fine pasturage, corn, and cattle. Its fenny situation, like part of Cambridgeshire, affords great plenty of fine fresh-water fish and wild-fowl.

Huntingdon, the shire town of this small county, on the river Ouse, was in former times much more considerable, but at present consists only of one very long street, with a good market place, a town hall, and two churches, but no considerable manufacture, and is merely a thoroughfare town. Neither is there any other town of consideration in this county, excepting Godmanchester, very near Huntingdon, which, though larger than Huntingdon, has no other trade than in malt and some coarse woollen goods.

XIX. Bedfordshire is an inland county, fertile in grain and cattle.

Bedford, its shire town, on the Ouse, is a large, populous, and well-built town, with five churches, a free-school, a charity school, and several alms-houses. It has a great trade in corn sent down the Ouse to Holland by the shipping of Lynn. Other materials for commerce formerly were womens straw hats. Here is also good fuller's earth, so necessary for the woollen manufacture. There is no other place of consequence in this county.

XX. Hertfordshire is in general a fertile inland country, plentiful in corn and cattle.

Hertford, its shire town, has two churches, and St. Albans has three churches; yet neither of them, nor any other town in this county, have any considerable manufacture. Yet they carry a great deal of corn, meal, and malt up to London, not only by the river Lea from Ware, but likewise by waggon carriage from several other parts of this county.

XXI. Buckinghamſhire has plenty of cattle and ſheep, and has good bone-lace and paper manufactures, the former at Buckingham town, Newport-Pagnel, Marlow, &c. though in other reſpects no very conſiderable towns.

Aileſbury is the largeſt and beſt town in the county, and makes much fine lace; its famous vale produces excellent wool.

XXII. Oxfordſhire is a fine and fertile county.

1. Oxford city is large and well built, on the river Iſis. It is not our province to deſcribe the illuſtrious univerſity, to which the city owes its original and increaſe. Here are ſeveral pariſh churches, beſide the cathedral, three charity-ſchools, an hoſpital, a fine ſhire-hall, &c. Yet, notwithſtanding the happy ſituation of this city in a moſt plentiful country, and on a navigable river, it is in a great meaſure, deſtitute both of commerce and manufactures.

2. Woodſtock, a ſmall market-town, has a manufacture of fine ſteel wares, as alſo for gloves and other leather manufactures.

3. Witney is famous for its fine blanket manufacture.

4. And Bampton for the greateſt trade in ſkins of any part of the kingdom.

XXIII. Glouceſterſhire is a fine and fruitful county, with extenſive ſheep walks on its Cotſwold Hills or Downs, which produce the fineſt of wool. In its plains there is plenty of corn and timber; and it produces vaſt quantities of excellent cheeſe and cyder.

1. Glouceſter city ſtands on the Severn, being a legal ſea-port, though ſo far up that river: and, although the city of Briſtol always has, and probably ever will, intercept and prevent its being conſiderable for naval commerce, it has, however, a cuſtom-houſe, to which ſhips of a moderate burden come up. Here are five pariſh churches, a cathedral, an infirmary, and ſeveral hoſpitals, charity, and other ſchools. It is a clean well-built place; yet its beſt manufactures are pins and bell-founding.

2. Cirenceſter was anciently more flouriſhing than at preſent, yet it ſtill carries on a conſiderable trade in wool, and alſo in many woollen manufactures: and, though no corporation, it has one free-ſchool, two charity-ſchools, and ſome hoſpitals and alms-houſes; being, even at this time, a larger place than are many corporation towns.

3. Tewkſbury is a large and populous town, on the river Severn, having great manufactures of woollen cloth and ſtockings.

4. Newnham, alſo on the Severn, has a great many iron-works and woods near it; and is remarkable for having had the firſt glaſs-houſe of any in England.

5, 6. Painſwick and Stroud are both conſiderable woollen manufacturing towns; and the latter is famous for its ſcarlet dye; owing, as it is ſaid, to the peculiar qualities of the ſmall river of the ſame name. Almoſt all the other leſſer towns in this county have conſiderable manufactures of woollen, and alſo of cheeſe.

XXIV. Monmouthſhire, on the other or weſt ſide of the Severn Frith, or Sea, is mountainous and woody, yet not unfertile,

1. Monmouth, its ſhire town, lies at the confluence of the rivers Mynwy and Wye; and carries on a good trade with Briſtol. It is a moderately large and well-built town.

2. Newport, on the river Uſk, has a harbour and ſome naval trade, being a pretty large town.

3. Pontypool, on the ſame river, is famous for its iron ſlitting mills, its manufacture of iron ſnuff boxes, &c. And more lately for its fine manufacture of tinned iron plates, ſo much improved, and ſo univerſally in uſe for kitchen furniture, and many other purpoſes.

4. Chep-

4. Chepstow, on the Wye, has a harbour, and a good trade in corn and coals.

5. Abergavenny is a large and populous inland town, dealing much in flannels.

XXV. Herefordshire abounds in corn, excellent wool, timber, cyder, and salmon.

1. Hereford city, on the river Wye, is of a moderate size, but is neither populous nor beautiful, and is much decayed from what it anciently was; yet has still two parish churches besides its cathedral, one hospital and two charity-schools. Its manufactures are only a small trade in gloves and other leather wares.

2. Leominster, on the river Lugg, is a large and well built town. Its wool and wheat are reckoned the best in England; and it has several mills and other machines for its woollen and leather manufactures.

XXVI. Worcestershire abounds in corn, cattle, sheep, fruits, river fish, and has some salt springs, and salt pits.

1. Worcester city, standing pleasantly on the river Severn, contains about two thousand houses, with a cathedral and several parish churches, three grammar-schools, six charity-schools, seven almshouses, an hospital, and a guildhall, and may contain about or near twenty thousand inhabitants. It has divers manufactures of fine cloths and gloves. Here is a custom-house and quay, to which many vessels of small burden come up.

2. Droitwich has four parish churches, and is famous for its white salt pits.

3. Bewdley is a considerable town on the Severn, dealing largely in corn, iron wares, salt, hops, leather, Manchester goods, &c. carried down the Severn to Gloucester and other parts.

4. Kidderminster is a populous town, having a considerable trade in woollen cloths and stuffs.

5. Stourbridge, on the river Stour, is a very thriving town, having manufactures of woollen cloth, iron, and glass, and also a peculiar kind of clay or earth for making the best crucibles. Here is a well-endowed grammar school, and library, and yet has but one parish church.

XXII. Warwickshire is a fine inland county.

1. Warwick, its county town, on the Avon, is a neat and pretty place, having two churches, three free schools, an hospital for decayed gentlemen, and a castle the seat of the Earl Brook and Warwick.

Coventry, a large and populous city, having three churches, several meeting houses, a free school, and an hospital. It had formerly a considerable manufacture of woollen cloth; but at present tammies and ribbons are its chief produce.

3. Birmingham is the largest town in this county, most populous and most thriving, and yet is not a corporation. It is not only all over England, but it may be said likewise all over Europe, that it is eminent for its almost endless variety of excellent and ingenious hardware manufactures, of vast variety of snuff and tobacco boxes, buttons, shoe buckles, &c. with many other sorts of steel and brass wares. For which end it is supplied with very cheap coals, and all other necessaries in great plenty. It has three fine churches, several dissenting meeting houses; and, having lately had many new streets added to it, it may probably contain about fifty thousand inhabitants, and at present much more likely to increase than to diminish.

XXVIII. Northamptonshire is a very populous inland county, extremely fruitful.

Northampton town is a pleasant place, having four parish churches, two dissenting meeting-houses, two hospitals, an infirmary, and a charity school: yet it has no considerable manufacture, being only noted for shoes, of which many are exported, and has also a stocking manufacture, and very good horses; where is the greatest horse market in England. Yet Kettering and other neigh-

bouring towns, though smaller, carry on a more considerable trade in corn, lace, and shalloons, and other light woollen goods.

The city of Peterborough, though not large, drives a considerable trade in corn, malt, and several sorts of woollen manufactures.

XXIX. Rutlandshire is the very smallest county in England, remarkably abounding in corn, black cattle, and sheep. It has only two small towns, Oakham and Uppingham, places of little consideration.

XXX. Leicestershire is very fertile in corn, cattle, and sheep with fine long wool.

Leicester, its shire town, is considerably large and populous, having at present three parish churches, (it had once thirty-two parish churches about the time of the Norman conquest: but subsequent misfortunes have so greatly reduced their number) three hospitals, and a charity-school. It carries on a great trade in stockings, corn, and cattle. The stocking frame trade having in some years yielded sixty thousand pounds per annum.

XXXI. Lincolnshire, a large county, with a very various soil.

1. Lincoln city, on the river Witham, is an old and decayed place, wherein, so lately as the reign of King Edward VI. there were said to be fifty-two parish churches, which were afterwards reduced to eighteen, and since to its present number of thirteen mean churches. It has a stately cathedral and four charity-schools, though but little trade or manufactures of any sort.

2. Stamford, on the Welland, is a well built and populous town. Its principal trade is in malt, free stone, and pit coal.

3. Grantham is a very handsome market town.

4. Boston, a sea port town, at the mouth of the Witham, is well built; and has some foreign trade in Port and wines, &c.

XXXII. Nottinghamshire is a fine county, and has in it many woods, forests, and coal pits.

1. Nottingham, situated on a rock near the river Trent, is one of the finest and pleasantest towns of the whole kingdom. It is wealthy and populous, has three parish churches and several meeting-houses. Its principal manufactures are stockings, for which it is very famous, it has good earthen ware, and is also very famous for its excellent malt and ale.

2. Newark, on the Trent, is a wealthy town, and deals much in corn, cattle, and wool.

XXXIII. Derbyshire, though, like most other counties, it has a various soil, has however plenty of corn and wood, with many mines of iron, lead, coal, and marble.

Derby, its shire town, lies on the Derwent, is well built and populous. It is a staple for wool, and is remarkable for good malt and fine ale, the latter being exported in great quantities. Here also is the most famous and surprisingly extensive machine (late Sir Thomas Lombe's) for throwing or twisting of silk, of a most curious construction, and a national benefit, and a manufacture of beautiful porcelain. There is no other place eminent for manufacture or trade in this county.

XXXIV. Staffordshire is in some parts barren, mountainous, and woody, in other parts it has good corn and pasture, and particularly abounds in mines of iron and coal.

1. Stafford, its county town, has two churches, and some good linen manufactures; but in other re[illegible] is not very eminent.

2. Lichfield, on the Trent, is a city, with a cathedral and three parish churches. It lies low, a[illegible] ornaments are the edifices in what is called the Close, viz. the episcopal palace, prebend[illegible] But h[illegible] are no manufactures nor commerce worthy of notice.

3. But Wolverhampton is a wealthy and populous town, filled with manufactures of the finest locksmiths work in England, and other kinds of hardware.

XXXV. Shropshire,

XXXV. Shropshire, or the county of Salop, is a pleasant and fertile country, abounding in corn, coals, iron, and wood.

1. Shrewsbury, or Salop, is a large, extremely pleasant, and well built town, with five parish churches, and several dissenting meeting houses, it is pleasantly almost surrounded by the river Severn, over which it has two stone bridges. It has large manufactures of flannel, called here Welch cottons, and also of cloth, and is famous for its cakes and brawn: and is said to have more gentry inhabiting it than any other country town in England.

2. Bridgnorth is beautifully situated on the Severn, and is a tolerably large and handsome town, with two churches: it has manufactures of muskets and other iron wares, as well as of woollen cloth, stockings, and leather.

XXXVI. Cheshire is mostly a level country, abounding in corn and cattle of all kinds, and in salt works.

1. Chester city on the river Dee, has walls entirely round it, a cathedral, and ten parish churches; and carries on a very considerable trade with Ireland. This city is large and populous, possibly containing near upon twenty thousand people. It is computed annually to vend thirty thousand tons weight of its excellent cheese, each consisting of twenty hundred weight.

Nantwich and Middlewich are two salt work towns.

XXXVII. Yorkshire, by far the largest county in England, is, in general, extremely fertile and plentiful in all the necessaries of life. Out of its forty-nine towns, the following are the principal, viz.

1. York city stands on the river Ouse, upon which ships of seventy tons burden sail up almost to the bridge. York is very much decayed, and fallen from its ancient splendor and magnitude. It has still seventeen parish churches, though twenty-eight nominal parishes, and a most noble gothic cathedral. It stands on more ground than the city of Bristol: although, in point of trade, wealth, and number of inhabitants, which do not exceed twenty thousand, it be greatly inferior to it, yet it is a pleasant and noble city, with many fine public and private edifices. It has still in it a cotton manufacture, and some trade by water carriage on the Ouse.

2. Halifax, upon the river Calder, is a very populous and wealthy town, eminent for its extensive woollen manufactures, though we have no where met with a particular or late account of its magnitude, any further than that, beside its ancient mother church, it has in its vastly large parish, twelve chapels, two of which (says the Thesaurus Geographicus, published in the year 1695) are parochial, which we do not well understand. It may probably contain about twenty thousand inhabitants.

3. Leeds is a very populous, large, and wealthy town, having three churches, and several dissenting meeting houses. It is most famous for its immense woollen cloth fair, where, say some, twenty thousand pounds worth of cloth is often sold in an hour's time, and much of it shipped off at Hull for foreign parts, its river being navigable by boats to Wakefield, York, and Hull.

4. Wakefield, from its woollen manufactures is of late so much increased, that it is computed to be more populous than York.

5. Sheffield is a very large town, eminently famous, ever since King Edward the Third's reign, for its cutlery ware; in which it is said to employ forty thousand people, though not all living within the town.

6. Hull, on a river of its name, falling there into the Humber, is a fine old fortified town, with a constant garrison in its citadel.

This flouriſhing place, ſo happily ſituated, enjoys a very large foreign commerce, and a numerous ſhipping, more eſpecially employed to the Baltic, and to the northern kingdoms, for naval ſtores, &c. and alſo in the fiſheries to Iceland and Greenland: and, although it has but two churches, beſide ſeveral meeting houſes, yet it is extremely populous. It has a cuſtom houſe, an exchange, a trinity houſe for pilotage, a ſtore-houſe for lead, a granary for corn, ſeveral hoſpitals and alms-houſes, a free-ſchool and charity-ſchool. It has alſo a large inland trade with the neighbouring counties, by means of the ſeveral rivers at and near it. Hull alſo deals largely in corn, has much ſail cloth manufactured at its Trinity houſe, and lead. Its cuſtoms, by its foreign trade, are reputed to amount to from thirty to forty thouſand pounds. It may probably contain twenty thouſand inhabitants.

7. Burlington, or Bridlington, is a large and wealthy ſea port town, having a good trade, and a ſafe harbour, near the famous promontory called Flamborough Head.

8. Richmond is a large and populous inland town, with walls, and a caſtle: it has two churches; and it deals largely in the lighter woollen manufactures.

9. Scarborough is a good ſea port town, with a ſafe harbour and a good trade. It is employed ſo much in the fiſhing for cod, herrings, &c, as to be able, not only to ſupply the neighbouring countries, but alſo to ſend conſiderable quantities beyond ſea. It likewiſe deals largely in the coal trade. Its harbour, and that of Yarmouth, are deemed the two beſt on this ſide of England, for ſhelter in caſe of a ſtorm.

10. Whitby is a good town, and has an excellent harbour on the river Eſk, where are built a great many of the beſt ſhips for the coal trade. Here are alum works, and a cuſtom houſe: and there are upwards of two hundred ſhips belonging to this thriving town.

Theſe ten inſtances may ſuffice; yet doubtleſs there are ſeveral of the other leſſer towns of this county, which may have ſome conſiderable woollen, iron, &c. manufactures, needleſs here to be ſpecified.

XXXVIII. In the county or biſhopric of Durham, the principal commodities or productions are, iron, lead, and coals, and ſome linen manufactures at Darlington.

1. The city of Durham is an inland city, on the river Wear, has a cathedral and ſix pariſh churches; over that river Durham has two noble ſtone bridges, yet it is not eminent either for manufactures or for commerce.

2. Stockton, leſs than an hundred years ago, had ſcarcely any other houſes but of clay and thatch, but is now well built, and carries on a great trade in lead and butter.

XXXIX. Northumberland yields excellent mines of coals and lead.

1. Newcaſtle, on the north ſide of the river Tyne, is its ſtately and opulent capital, over which river there is a good ſtone bridge. This town is a country within itſelf, is extremely populous, having ſeven churches, beſide chapels and meeting houſes, has ſeveral charity ſchools, and a large hoſpital. The river Tyne is its extenſive and ſafe harbour; from whence almoſt incredible quantities of coals are conſtantly ſhipped off for London, and other parts of England, as well as to foreign parts. It is, moreover, in other reſpects, a place of very conſiderable foreign commerce, has ſeveral glaſs houſes, a conſiderable manufacture of hardware, and the beſt grindſtones in all Europe. Newcaſtle builds many ſhips for the coal trade. Seven miles down the river, the large village of North Shields is the noted ſtation for the coal ſhips, where they take in their ladings from the numerous lighters called keels, conſtantly going thither for that end, navigated by above four thouſand keelmen. Here is a fine exchange, a cuſtom-houſe, manſion-houſe for the Mayor, a ſurgeon's hall, &c. and ſeveral other public and private edifices. Merchant ſhips of conſiderable burden come up

to

to its fine quay, but most of them remain at Shields, ready to go out to sea; where, at the mouth of the Tyne, there is a fort well planted with cannon, and a garrison. Newcastle, with Shields, is by many thought to contain above fifty thousand people.

2. Berwick, at the mouth and on the north or Scotch side of the river Tweed, is a walled town, with a strong castle and garrison, has two churches. Here is great plenty of provisions, vast quantities of salmon pickled for the London market: here is a manufacture of worsted stockings, and an exchange for merchants: yet ships of large burden cannot enter the harbour, by reason of a bar at the mouth of it.

XL. Lancashire is in some parts fruitful, in other parts marshy, and in some other parts stony and barren. [illegible]ef natural productions are corn, coals, and excellent hemp.

[illegible]ter, its county town, is a sea port, though capable only of ships of about seventy tons burden: yet, with such ships, it carries on a thriving trade with America, in manufactures of woollen, hard[illegible]. It has a custom house and castle.

2. Preston, a very handsome and thriving town.

3. Manchester, on the Irwell, is a large, beautiful, and extremely populous place: and though, in point of government, it is really but a village, as having no higher magistrate than a constable; yet, in magnitude, elegant buildings, and number of inhabitants, it surpasses all the towns, and even all the cities of England, three only excepted. It is eminently famous for the skill and industry of its people, in many kinds of manufactures of cotton, dimities, tickings, &c. and is by some said to contain upwards of forty thousand, and some others think fifty thousand people. Yet, beside several meeting houses, and some private Popish mass houses, it has but one large collegiate church, and one parish church. It has a college, an hospital, a library, a free school, and several charity schools.

4. Warrington is a populous market town, and is eminent for its trade in linen and malt.

5. Liverpool is a large and fine sea port town, at the mouth of the river Mersee, with a convenient harbour, and a fine wet dock. It has so vast a foreign or naval commerce, more particularly in the Guinea and West India trade, as even to vie with, and in some branches to exceed the city of Bristol itself. It had but three parish churches till the year 1762, when two more were added by act of Parliament: here are also several meeting-houses, a custom-house, an exchange, sundry alms-houses, and a work-house. Its harbour is defended on the south side by a castle, and on the west side by a tower, and has an act of Parliament for making further improvements in it. It may have about four hundred ships and vessels, great and small, belonging to it, including coasting as well as foreign trade, is thought to contain about thirty thousand inhabitants, and both it and Manchester are constantly increasing, not only in single houses, but even in entire new streets.

XLI. Westmoreland lies, as its name imports, mostly in a marshy or moorish country, and other parts of it are mountainous.

1. Appleby, esteemed the county town, is a decayed place, with two churches: it is washed by the river Eden, and has very little of any thing like trade or manufactures.

2. Kendal is a much more considerable place in point of trade, buildings, and the number and wealth of its inhabitants, and is also greatly enriched by its woollen cloth manufactures, known for four centuries past by the name of Kendal cloths, and by its druggets, stockings, and hats, although it has but a small harbour on the river Can. It has but one parish church, but it is said to have no less than twelve chapels, and may probably have near twenty thousand inhabitants.

XLII. Cumberland, on the Irish Sea, abounds in pit coal, copper, and lead.

1. Carlisle is a small walled city, on the river Eden, has a cathedral, and two parish churches. It has a small manufacture of fustians, but, although it be a sea port, it has no foreign commerce.

2. [illegible],

2. Penrith, uſually pronounced Perith, is a well built and populous inland trading town, eminent for its tanners, and for corn and cattle.

3. Keſwick, a ſmall market town, is no otherwiſe remarkable than for its black lead mine, by ſome, through miſtake, ſaid to be the only one of the kind in all Europe.

WALES.

In the principality of Wales are twelve counties, viz. ſix in South Wales, and the ſame number in North Wales. The whole country is ſo vaſtly improved ſince its complete union with England, as to have quite another appearance at preſent than it had two hundred years ago. Its lands are well cultivated, its towns well built and inhabited; and, although it be moſtly mo[redacted] it nevertheleſs affords plenty of all the neceſſaries of life, either in reſpect to corn or ca[redacted] plenty of wood, coals, and turf for fewel, and for working its mines. The whole principality probably containing three hundred thouſand people.

In SOUTH WALES, we ſhall begin with

I. Pembrokeſhire is in general very fertile: it has a remarkable kind of fuel named Culm, being the duſt of pit coal made up into balls, affording a bright, laſting, and pleaſant fire, much uſed.

1. The town of Pembroke ſtands on one of the many creeks of Milford-haven, one of the largeſt and ſafeſt havens in all Europe. This town of Pembroke has two churches, a cuſtom-houſe, and a conſiderable naval commerce.

2. Tenby, or Tenbigh, has a good herring fiſhery, and exports large quantities of coals.

3. Haverford-weſt is a rich and populous ſea-port town, with a conſiderable trade: it has four churches, a cuſtom-houſe, and commodious quay for ſhipping.

4. St. David's is a ſmall city, ſo called as being a Biſhop's ſee and a corporation, on the ſea coaſt; but being in a barren country, it is much decayed.

II. Caermarthenſhire is one of the moſt fruitful counties of Wales, with plenty of corn, cattle, ſalmon, wood, pit coal, and abundance of lead.

Caermarthen is the ſhire town, and the only good one in the county. It ſtands on the river Towy, which brings ſhips up to it: it is a thriving, well built, polite, and populous place, with a good trade. ſo as it may be juſtly reputed the capital of South Wales, it being the chief reſort of the gentry of thoſe parts.

III. Glamorganſhire is partly mountainous, and in ſome parts very fruitful.

1. Swanſey is a neat ſea-port town, with a good harbour, and carries a great trade in coals and culm, having alſo ſome copper works.

2. Caerdiff, a handſome, populous, and trading ſea-port.

3. Landaff, though a Biſhop's ſee, is but a mere village, having no corporation.

IV. Brecknockſhire has high mountains, and deep vallies, producing corn, cattle, and fiſh.

Brecknock town has three churches, and ſome trade in woollen cloth.

V. Cardiganſhire, on the Iriſh channel, produces grain, cattle, fiſh, ſilver, lead, and copper.

1. Cardigan is rather a large and well built town, has a very briſk trade with Ireland from its river Tivy. And here are ſaid to be the fineſt ſalmon in all England.

2. Aberyſtwith is a town of ſome trade, and is populous.

VI. Radnorſhire is one of the leaſt fertile of any in this principality.

1. Radnor is but a mean place; but,

2. Preſteing is a neat town, dealing much in corn and malt; and,

3. Knighton in much the ſame; as alſo in cattle, hops, &c.

In



In North Wales,

VII. Montgomeryſhire, an inland county, and very mountainous.

1. Montgomery is a place of no eminence; but,

2. Welchpool is a pretty little town, and has a conſiderable manufacture of flannels.

VIII. Merionethſhire, on the Iriſh ſea, though almoſt wholly mountainous, has ſome cotton manufactures, with infinite numbers of ſheep on its mountains; but not one town of any note, though Harlech caſtle is called its ſhire town.

IX. Flintſhire is a ſmall county, bordering on Cheſhire; and, though mountainous, produces cattle, pit coal, lead, and mill ſtones; yet has no town of any account, although St. Aſaph be the ſee of a Biſhop, but is no corporation.

X. Denbighſhire is a large and fertile valley.

1. Denbigh is pretty large and populous, and much inhabited by tanners and glovers.

2. Wrexham is the largeſt town in all North Wales, being populous and well built; and has a great trade in flannels.

XI. Caernarvonſhire has many very high mountains, and is very rocky. Yet, in the maritime parts, it is tolerably fertile and well inhabited.

1. Caernarvon is ſituated on the ſtreight of the ſea which divides this ſhire from the iſle of Angleſea. It is ſmall, but well built.

2. Bangor, an ancient city on the ſame ſtreight of the ſea, anciently of great account, but now a ſmall town, all its dignity at preſent being derived from its being a Biſhop's ſee, and as ſuch, jointly with its being a corporation, aſſumes the appellation of a city.

3. Aberconway, though ſo lately founded as the reign of King Edward II. is grown up into a handſome town.

XII. Angleſey iſland and county is divided from the main land by the above-named narrow ſtreight of the ſea.

Beaumaris, its ſhire town, has a good harbour for ſhips, and, by its trade, is become a pretty wealthy place.

The little iſle of Holy-head is divided from Angleſey by a ſmall ſtreight, and is only remarkable for being the uſual ſtation of the packet boats to and from Ireland.

The Isle of Man, lying over againſt Lancaſhire, in the Iriſh ſea, though properly of no county of England, is nevertheleſs ſubject, as to its *dominium directum*, to the crown and kingdom of Great Britain, as its Lord Paramount, but, with reſpect to its immediate property and revenue, or its *dominium utile*, it belongs to the Duke of Athol. Its ſoil is fertile in grain and cattle of all ſorts: their products for exportation conſiſt of wool, hides, and tallow, which they exchange with foreign ſhipping for commodities they may have occaſion for from other parts. Its metropolis, properly ſpeaking, as having a caſtle and garriſon, is Caſtletown; but Douglas is the beſt town and harbour, as being moſt frequented by ſhipping. After the cloſe of the laſt war, when it was judged highly neceſſary to take every method poſſible for the improvement of the public revenue, the removing the inconveniencies, ſo long experienced from the clandeſtine commerce carried on from this iſland, brought on a treaty, between the Lords of the Treaſury, and the Duke and Ducheſs of Athol as proprietors, which being concluded, an act of Parliament paſſed for confirming it; whereby, in conſideration of the ſum of ſeventy thouſand pounds, an abſolute ſurrender was made to his Majeſty of the Iſle, Caſtle, and Pele of Man, and all the iſlands, lordſhips, royalties, liberties, and ſea-ports appertaining to the ſame. Reſerving, however, to the proprietors, the patronage of the biſhopric, of all the eccleſiaſtical preferments, and alſo all their rights to the landed property in that iſland with every thing appertaining thereto.

SCOTLAND.

S C O T L A N D.

Its natural productions are corn and pulse of all kinds, horned cattle, small hardy horses, sheep, hogs, wool, flax, iron, lead, marble, peltry, slate, and hemp.

It is usually divided into thirty-one shires and two stewartries, and may contain one million five hundred thousand people, viz.

I. Berwickshire, (or, in the old stile, the Merse) on the German ocean, next to Northumberland, is fertile in corn, and pasturage. Its best towns are,

1. Dunse, a place of the best trade of this county.

2. Kelso, a pretty market town on the Tweed, in a pleasant part of the country; and,

3. Lauder, a royal burg, *i. e.* a corporation immediately depending solely on the crown, without any sort of subjection or dependence on any subject, with but few manufactures.

The reader needs scarcely to be told, that the town of Berwick upon Tweed was long since reduced to the subjection of England, as a separate dominion.

Lothian, divided into East and Mid-Lothian, the most fertile, pleasant, and most populous part of Scotland.

II. East Lothian contains,

1. Dunbar, a well built royal burgh, and a well known sea port, with a good harbour, and some considerable naval commerce.

2. Haddington, a royal burgh, with some inland trade in corn, &c.

3. Preston-Pans, Cockenny, and Seton, towns chiefly eminent for their salt works.

III. Mid-Lothian contains,

1. Mutcleburg, a royal burgh and sea port, having some prosperous woollen manufactures.

2. Edinburgh, the capital of Scotland. It is large, well built, and populous, having eleven large parish churches, and about as many episcopal meeting houses, an eminent university, several large and well endowed hospitals a stately royal infirmary, an exchange, a royal college of physicians, with a physic garden, a noble and strong castle, with a garrison, a fine royal palace, and many handsome palaces of the nobility. Parallel to the city of Edinburgh, on the north, the nobility, gentry, and others, have built a new town, upon a plan which does honour to the present age. The streets and squares are laid out with the utmost regularity, the houses are principally of stone, and the fronts of many superbly finished in all the beauties of architecture. The number of its inhabitants has been estimated at sixty thousand, but, from the addition of the New Town, &c. and the consequent increase in population, it may reasonably be inferred, that they are now much more considerable. The spacious town and port of Leith, contains two parish churches, with a fine quay and pier running a great way into the sea, is the proper port of Edinburgh; which has no inconsiderable foreign, and a large coasting trade. Edinburgh is, moreover, the seat of government, of the chief courts of law, and boards of revenue; and as it has many persons of quality and figure always residing in it, with such qualifications it is, and always will be, deemed a place of polite resort, and most agreeable conversation, even notwithstanding the objections of certain inconveniencies attending such persons as may be necessarily obliged to live in the central and closer parts of so populous a place.--Vide Botero's the distinction between a large and a great city, under the year 1594, of this work.

IV. Linlithgowshire, otherwise called West Lothian, contains,

Borrowstonness, on the river Forth, is a port of good commerce and shipping; and, next to Leith, carries on the greatest trade to Holland and France of any in Scotland.

2. Linlithgow, a well built town, with a confiderable linen manufacture, and a ruinous royal palace.

V. The fhire of Tweedale has good pafturage, and great plenty of fheep, whofe wool is in good efteem: yet Peebles, on the Tweed, though its fhire-town, is but an inconfiderable place.

VI. Selkrig, or Selkirk-fhire and town has nothing in it very remarkable.

VII. Teviotdale, or Roxburghfhire.

Its beft town is Jedburgh, a royal burgh, having fome good woollen manufactures.

VIII. Dumfries fhire is a good country.

Dumfries, its county town, is a large improving fea-port, on the Irifh Sea; has two parifh churches, a confiderable number of good fhips, with a proportionable fhare of foreign commerce, and about fix thoufand inhabitants.

IX. Kirkcudbright ftewartry is a large and fertile country.

Kirkcudbright, its chief town, has a good harbour at the mouth of the river Dee, and lies very commodious for commerce.

X. Wigton-fhire contains,

1. Wigton, its fhire-town, which, though it has a harbour, has little commerce. Here alfo is,

2. Whithern, a royal burgh.

3. Port-Patrick, a fmall town, with a tolerable harbour, being the ufual port of paffage to Belfaft, and other parts of the north of Ireland.

Thefe two counties are comprehended in the old country of Galloway; which large country gives the title of earl to one of the branches of the noble family of Stewart; although Dr. Bufching's map-maker has not fo much as found a place for its faid ancient name on his map of Scotland.

XI. The fhire of Air has its fhire-town of the fame name, which carries on a confiderable trade, with fome fhipping.

2. Irwin is a fmall fea-port, with fome fhips and commerce.

XII. Renfrewfhire is pleafant, rich, and populous; has

1 Greenock, a well-built fea-port, with a good fhare of foreign trade, and the largeft herring-fifhery of any of the weft coaft of Scotland.

2. Paifley, a large inland town, of late years become eminent for its fine linen and long-lawn manufactures.

3. Renfrew is fmall, and not confiderable.

XIII The fhire of Lanerk or Clydefdale, a fine and wealthy country, has

1. Lanerk, its fhire-town, ftanding on the fine river Clyde.

2 Hamilton, a fmall, but well-built and pleafant town, on the Clyde, having a fine linen manufacture, and a noble palace of the Dukes of Hamilton near it.

3 Glafgow is a large and beautifully built city, fituated in a plain along the Clyde, in a very fertile country. It is a city of very confiderable foreign as well as domeftic commerce, having many good fhips trading to America, and many other countries. It has many excellent manufactures of various kinds: it has feven churches. Its proper harbour lies fome miles lower down the river, at a place called New Port-Glafgow, yet fmaller veffels can come up to the city, which has a moft thriving univerfity, and the city may poffibly contain thirty thoufand inhabitants.

XIV. Stirling-fhire is a fine fertile country, on and near the river Forth.

Stirling, its capital town, ftands on a fine eminence, having a ftone-bridge acrofs the Forth. It is a large and well-built town, with a ftrong royal caftle. Ships of fmall burthen come up with the tide to its bridge. Stirling has very confiderable manufactures of fhalloons and ferges.

XV. The small shire of Clackmannan is a good and fertile country, and abounds in pit-coal beyond any other part. Its towns are,

1. Alloa, or Alloway, a small town, with a good harbour on the Forth, and some commerce.

2. Culross, a royal burgh, on the Frith of Forth, with a tolerable coasting trade.

XVI. Fife-shire, on the Frith of Forth, contains much coal, and a considerable number of small towns along the sea coast, with shipping belonging, more or less, to each of them.

1. Burnt-island is a royal burgh, having a fine harbour, and a considerable linen manufacture.

2. Kirkaldy is the most populous and thriving burgh on all the coast of Fife, having a considerable foreign commerce, and much shipping.

3. St. Andrew's, its shire-town, is much declined from its ancient splendour, though it still has an university, and a small harbour, but without shipping.

XVII. The little shire of Kinross has in it only the small town of the same name, but of little significance.

XVIII. Dunbarton-shire, or Lenox-shire, the ancient appellation of it, is properly very highland and mountainous, yet has good pasturage, and some fertile spots for tillage.

Dunbarton town stands on a bay of the sea, formed by the rivers Clyde and Leven, it had once a considerable trade, but is now so much decayed, as to be principally eminent only by its very strong royal castle, on a high rock, having a small garrison.

XIX. The shire of Bute consists only of the islands of Bute and Arran, lying in the Frith of Clyde. On the former stands the royal burgh of Rothsay. At both these islands there is a great herring-fishery, and their rivers abound with salmon and other fish.

XX. Argyle-shire, a large highland or mountainous country, abounding in cattle and sheep.

1. Inverary, its shire-town, is a royal burgh, as is also

2. Campbelton, with a good harbour, and some shipping, especially well situated for, and employed in the herring and Greenland fisheries.

The islands of Ilay and Jura, in this same county, yield plenty of corn and cattle, lead-mines, and lime-stones, but there are no towns worth noting.

Along the west coast there are abundance of isles, and some of considerable compass, which, for want of due plantation, cultivation, and improvement, were hitherto no otherwise remarkable than on account of their most convenient situation for the fisheries for herring, cod, &c. which there so much abound, though now, from the spirited exertions of a few patriotic gentlemen, in calling the attention of Parliament to an object of so much national consequence, they are likely to become of much more substantial benefit to the public than has been hitherto imagined — this coast seeming to resemble a rich mine of inexhaustible wealth, till now totally neglected and unexplored, and left to the improvement and investigation of this and succeeding ages. They are well known by the general name of the Hebrides or Western Isles, but they have, as yet, no towns worth particular notice.

XXI. Perth-shire is a large county, with various soil, though it has plenty of pasture, corn, cattle, linen, flax, &c.

1. Perth, its shire-town, pleasantly [illegible] on the fine and large river Tay, it has [illegible] commerce to Norway, the Baltic, [illegible] part, and a very improving linen manufacture.

[illegible], the best market town in the Highlands for linen, [illegible]

[illegible] town.

4. [illegible] town, said to have been the usual residence of the British kings.

[illegible] or [illegible] its most ancient appellation, is a [illegible]

[illegible] ture

Forfar is but an inconſiderable place; but,

1. Dundee, its proper capital, is a large and populous town, near the mouth of the river Tay: it is a town of conſiderable trade, exporting much linen, grain, herrings, peltry, &c. to ſundry foreign parts: it has three churches, and may contain about ten thouſand inhabitants.

2. Montroſe, a pretty little town, with a fine harbour, good ſhipping, and a conſiderable foreign commerce.

3. Aberbrothick is a ſea-port and royal burgh, though it has but little maritime commerce.

4. Brechin, a ſmall inland royal burgh, of inconſiderable trade.

XXIII. Kincardine-ſhire, or Merns, its ancient name, has but an indifferent ſoil, without any town of conſiderable note, and only along its coaſt a number of ſmall ſea-ports, with ſome coaſting and fiſhing veſſels, and ſome light and cheap woollen manufactures, of which they export ſome to Holland in their ſaid veſſels.

XXIV. Aberdeen-ſhire comprehends the anciently named countries of Marr, Buchan, and Garioch, ſtill known by thoſe ancient appellations amongſt the natives. It is a large county, and produces plenty of grain, cattle, ſheep, wool, peltry, &c. It is extremely well ſupplied with the beſt of ſea-fiſh on its own coaſt, whereof a great deal is exported to France and Italy; and its rivers running into the German ocean, are replete with an exuberance of ſalmon, trout, &c. This country has much linen, and ſlight woollen manufactures, and is moſt famous for its very fine knit-ſtockings.

1. New Aberdeen, the ſhire-town, at the mouth of the river Dee, is a large well-built city, and has a good dry or tide harbour. In it are three churches, and ſeveral Epiſcopal meeting-houſes, a conſiderable degree of foreign commerce, and much ſhipping; a well frequented univerſity, and above twelve thouſand inhabitants.

2. Old Aberdeen, near a mile diſtant, though almoſt joined to the other by means of a long village depending on neither of them: is a moderately large market-town, but has no haven. In each of theſe two places there is a well endowed college, both together being termed the Univerſity of Aberdeen, although quite independent on each other. It is now, however, in agitation to unite them.

3. 4. Kintore and Inverurie are two ſmall inland royal burghs on the river Don, of little trade.

5. Old Meldrum, though no corporation, is a better town than either of them, having good woollen manufactures, and a very great trade in wool and linen.

6. Peterhead, a ſea-port, with a good trade for grain and fiſh, and ſome ſhipping for Norway, &c.

XXV. Banff-ſhire has plenty of grain, cattle, ſea and river-fiſh, and a conſiderable linen manufacture.

1. Banff, its ſhire-town, a ſmall royal burgh and ſea-port, though of ſmall commerce.

2. Fraſerſburgh, a port-town, with a good harbour, and ſome trade to Norway with meal, malt, and grain.

3. Portſoy, a pretty village, having a good fiſhery, and a conſiderable coaſting trade.

XXVI. and XXVII. The ſhires of Elgin and Nairn conſtitute both parts of the fine and plentiful country having the ancient appellation of Murray or Moray, moſtly a plain level country, abounding with the fineſt wheat, (beyond many counties of a more ſouthern climate) and other grain, with great plenty of all other neceſſaries, as cattle, ſea and river-fiſh.

1. Elgin, its ancient ſhire-town, is a royal burgh, but no ſea-port; yet has ſome manufactures.

2. Nairn, a ſmall royal burgh, having an harbour, and ſome coaſting trade.

XXVIII. Inverneſs-ſhire contains the town of that name, having a good harbour, a fine ſtone-bridge over the river Neſs, and a thriving foreign and coaſting trade. In it are two churches.

At the West Highland town of Maryburgh, or Inverlochy, ſtands a royal fort, with a garriſon, named Fort William, where are ſome ſhipping, chiefly for ſupplying the garriſon and neighbourhood with neceſſaries.

XXIX. and XXX. The ſhires of Cromarty and Tayne conſtitute the largeſt county in Scotland, known ſtill by its ancient appellation of Roſs; towards the weſt, it is rugged, rocky, and mountainous; incapable of tillage, but breeding vaſt quantities of ſmall black cattle, large droves of which are annually ſent to England: its eaſtern coaſt is however more level and fertile.

1. Cromarty is a ſmall royal burgh, with one of the beſt harbours in Great Britain, admirably well fitted for trade and fiſhery; but has very little commerce, excepting a mere coaſting trade.

2. Tayne, a ſmall ſea-port, with ſome coaſting trade.

3. Chanry, a ſmall town, with a harbour, but very little trade: oppoſite to which, ſituated at the entrance of the friths of Cromarty and Moray, is Fort George, a very ſtrong and extenſive modern fortification.

4. Dingwall, a ſmall ſea-port town at the head of the Bay of Cromarty, of little trade.

Oppoſite to Dingwall, on the ſouth-eaſt ſide of Cromarty Frith, is ſituated the ſmall diſtrict of Farintoſh, celebrated for its extenſive whiſkey diſtillery.

To this extenſive county belongs the large and tolerably well peopled Iſle of Skye, divided from the weſt ſhore of the country by a very narrow ſtrait of the ſea.

From this iſle is carried on a very great herring-fiſhery, and alſo from ſome neighbouring iſles.—Skye produces ſo much grain, as to be enabled therewith to ſupply a good part of its neighbouring continent.

Round the yet larger iſle of Lewis, and its many bays, lying farther to the north-weſt in the ocean, there is an exuberance of the beſt fiſh of all kinds; as herring, cod, ling, ſkate, haddock, &c. It is reckoned about eighty miles in length, ſtretching from ſouth to north, including its ſouth part, called Harris, joined to it by a narrow iſthmus: but, ſurely, South and North Uiſt, ſeparated from Lewis by only narrow ſtraits, muſt be included in this extent.

XXXI. The ſhire of Sutherland, or Dornoch, produces ſmall cattle, ſheep, wool, hides, ſkins, tallow, and immenſe quantities of both ſea and river-fiſh; yet has no town of any note but Dornoch, which is, however, but an inconſiderable one, though a royal burgh.

Strathnavern, a part of the weſt-ſide of this ſhire, is very mountainous, and has only ſmall villages in it.

XXXII. The ſhire of Cathneſs, which joins with Bute for ſending one repreſentative to Parliament, though the furtheſt north county of the iſland of Great Britain, is yet a better ſoil than ſome counties more ſoutherly, and they ſpeak the Engliſh tongue, to the very extreme point of the land, more intelligibly than in ſeveral other counties.

1. Wick is its ſhire-town, and a royal burgh, with a good harbour, but little trade.

2. Thurſo, a ſmall ſea-port, with a tolerable harbour, pointing to Pentland Frith, which ſeparates the Orkneys from the continent.

Here is Dungſbay (*i. e.* Duncan's-bay) Head, projecting north-eaſt into the ſaid frith, and is the very fartheſt promontory or point of land of the whole iſland of Great Britain northward.

XXXIII. The ſtewartry, or ſhire of Orkney and Shetland, conſiſts of the two great cluſters of iſles going reſpectively by thoſe two general appellations, in the northern ocean.

That of Orkney conſiſts of twenty-eight iſles, though not all inhabited. The largeſt and beſt inhabited, being twenty-four miles in length, is named Pomona, (for what reaſon, it is ſomewhat

 hard

hard to gueſs) and, conſidering its very northern latitude, is well cultivated and fertile. Its chief town is Kirkwall, a royal burgh, having ſome trade and ſmall ſhipping. The products here conſiſt of grain, cattle, hides, tallow, lead, ſalt, coarſe cloth, and ſtockings, bed-feathers, ſalt-fiſh, &c. And the other leſſer iſles are generally well enough ſupplied with grain, cattle, fiſh, &c.

That of Shetland contains forty-ſix iſles, beſide what, in the old Norwegian or Norſe language, are called *holms* (*i. e.* mere rocks). The largeſt has obtained the obvious name of Mainland, or, as ſome Dutch maps call it, Hetland) being near ſixty miles in length, and ſixteen in breadth. People here are, for the moſt part, employed in fiſhing, knitting of ſtockings, or in making a coarſe kind of woollen cloth, with which they ſupply the Dutch and other foreign fiſhing veſſels. Here are two ſmall towns, Lerwick and Scalloway; the former being the chief, lies near the famous harbour or ſound called Braſſa-Sound, and conſiſts of about three hundred ſtone houſes, there being no timber, nor any ſort of fruit growing here higher than their garden-walls, becauſe of their nipping froſts. Moſt of their other iſles are inhabited, and many of them have pariſh churches. The herring-buſſes of the Hollanders and Hamburgers carry on a conſiderable trade with the natives for their coarſe woollen goods, in exchange for their money, liquors, &c. and ſhips from Ireland, Scotland, and Orkney, bring them meal, barley, and malt. Scalloway is a ſmaller place, ſituated on the ſame chief iſle.

I R E L A N D.

The kingdom of Ireland is a fine and fertile iſland, abounding in all the neceſſaries and conveniences that a reaſonable man can wiſh for, wine only excepted. In it are found many large and opulent cities, a great number of handſome and eminent trading towns, and very valuable materials for commerce.

I. Of the four great diviſions of the kingdom, we ſhall begin with that which is beſt inhabited, viz. the fine province (once kingdom) of Leinſter, on its eaſt ſide, directly oppoſite to Wales.

In this province are contained,

1. Dublin, its ſuperb capital, and the famous metropolis of the whole kingdom. Of this city it has been very frequently and confidently aſſerted, that, ſince the year 1711, or, according to others, three years later, or ſince the acceſſion of the illuſtrious Houſe of Hanover to the crown, it has ſo rapidly increaſed, as, in ſo ſhort a ſpace, to have added to her ſuburbs no fewer than four thouſand houſes, and thirty thouſand inhabitants. As it is the ſeat of government, it may eaſily be ſuppoſed to have in it many noble edifices, corporation-halls, hoſpitals, charity-ſchools, alms-houſes, beſide fourteen pariſh churches, many Proteſtant meeting-houſes, and even more Popiſh maſs-houſes, by them called chapels. An archbiſhopric, one cathedral, and one collegiate church; a royal caſtle, a flouriſhing univerſity, ſome fine ſquares, and ſeveral bridges croſs its river Liffy. It ſtands in ſo good a country, as enables it to export many materials for commerce, and particularly great quantities of ſalt proviſions, hides, tallow, butter, and cheeſe; but principally, of late years, an almoſt incredible quantity of linen, of various ſorts, to the great enriching of Ireland. Dublin, therefore, with all ſuch advantages, cannot fail to have a great commerce, and a numerous ſhipping, and may probably contain about one hundred thouſand inhabitants, much about the ſize of Stockholm, Copenhagen, Berlin, Marſeilles, and our own Briſtol.

2. Wexford, a large, well-built, and much frequented ſea-port, with a good harbour, and a conſiderable quantity of ſhipping.

3. Kilkenny, a pleaſant and reaſonably large inland city, with ſome commerce.

4. Roſs,

4. Rofs, a town, with a tolerably good trade.

5. Trim, on the Boyne, has alfo a pretty good trade.

II. The province of Ulfter lies to the north of Leinftor. Here it was that Ireland's vaft linen manufacture took its rife amongft the Scots, long fettled there, and where it ftill moft peculiarly flourifhes, beyond any other part of that kingdom. This alfo is the only one of Ireland's four capital provinces wherein the Proteftants out-number the Papifts, occafioned by the defcendants of the numerous Scots who long ago fettled, and were often recruited here, being all Proteftants; and they equally outdo their Popifh neighbours in point of fobriety and induftry. The beft places here are,

1. Drogheda, (otherwife written Tredagh) a ftrong and populous town at the mouth of the river Boyne, has a good harbour, and carries on an extenfive trade with the north part of England.

2. Armagh is efteemed the moft fertile county in Ireland, yet the town, (or, if it will pleafe better, the city of that name) though the feat of an archbifhop, who is primate of all Ireland, is at prefent a poor place, or mere village, having, in Queen Elizabeth's time, been deftroyed by the rebel O'Neale, and has never fince been able to recover its ancient luftre.

3. Belfaft, a good fea-port and trading town, at the mouth of the Lagen-water.

4. Downpatrick has a flourifhing manufacture.

5. Carrickfergus, or Knockfergus, is by fome deemed the capital town of the province, has a good harbour, but little commerce. Thefe places lie oppofite to the north parts of England.

6. Derry, or Londonderry, as it is moft ufually called, ftands on Loch-Foyl; is a ftrong little city, having linen manufactures, with fome commerce and fhipping. And this extreme north part of Ireland is fituated fo near Scotland, that the inhabitants are in fight of each others coafts.

7. Donnegal, the county town of the fame name, otherwife called the county of Tyrconnel, is a place of fome trade, as is likewife Ennifkilling. All which places, and many more, though lefs confiderable ones, are chiefly, and moft induftrioufly, employed in the manufactures of linen and linen thread, to the great benefit of the whole kingdom, which, by its vaft annual exportations of linen into England, is enabled to pay for the great annual importations from England into Ireland, and likewife to render the money conftantly drawn from Ireland into England by her abfentees, lefs grievous to her.

III. The province of Connaught, lying on the weft fide of Ireland, is, in fome parts, very fertile, but in others, it is covered with woods and bogs. It lies moftly weft of the great river Shannon, and is the leaft populous, leaft induftrious, and moft Popifh, of any of the four capital provinces of Ireland. Its beft places are,

1. Sligo, on a bay of that name, having a caftle and a convenient harbour.

2. Athlone, a fortified town, on the river Shannon, with a market.

3. Rofcommon, a market-town, with a fair.

4. Galway, a good town, the capital of Connaught, a bifhop's fee, with a fine harbour, and fome fmall commerce.

5. Tuam, though an archbifhopric, is merely a village.

IV. The province of Munfter is the moft fouthern part or divifion of Ireland; and, next after Dublin, has the four beft places of that kingdom, for foreign commerce and fhipping, viz.

1. Cork, by far the nobleft city next to Dublin, whether confidered in refpect to magnitude, riches, commerce, or fhipping; every one of which are truly great. Its immenfe exportation of falt provifions of all kinds, except fifh, is well known.

2. Waterford, the third city of Ireland in the four before-named refpects, but not, as Bufching's New Geography alledges, the fecond city of the kingdom.

3. Limerick is a handſome, populous, well-traded and ſtrong city, on both ſides the Shannon, a place of good commerce and ſhipping.

☞ The preciſe magnitude, or the number of people in theſe three cities, as they truly merit to be denominated, we have exhibited, with Dublin, in the body of our work, under the year 1760.

4. Kingſale is a populous and ſtrong town, with an excellent harbour and conſiderable commerce and ſhipping: and it is, moreover, occaſionally a ſtation for the navy royal; for which end there reſide at this port proper naval officers, ſtorehouſes, &c.

5. Caſhel, a place of ſome conſideration, and the ſee of an Archbiſhop.

6. Clonmell, a fortified and Parliament town.

7. Kilmallock, a good town.

8. Dingle, a good market town.

9. Youghall, a well-inhabited town, with a good harbour, and ſome trade and ſhipping.

10. Baltimore, a ſmall town with a good harbour.

Many of the places in Ireland where cathedrals are placed, (as alſo ſeveral of thoſe in Scotland, where formerly there were ſuch) being no better than mere villages, we have not therefore honoured them ſo far as to term them cities; ſince, without being ſo much as a corporation in an Engliſh legal ſenſe, they cannot, by any propriety, be termed cities, as we have already obſerved in the deſcription of Ely and Landaff.

F R A N C E.

France is undoubtedly one of the fineſt countries upon earth, in point of ſoil, climate, and fertility. Yet, like all other extenſive countries, it has many barren tracks and mountains. In ſome parts it yields an exuberance, and in all a ſufficiency of the neceſſaries and conveniencies of life. Corn, excellent wines, ſalt, olives and their oil, cyder in her northern provinces, many kinds of fine fruits in general, and Bourdeaux exports whole ſhip loads of Prunes.—Capers are chiefly in the country about Toulon.—Flax and hemp in the French Netherlands, and other parts.—Wool in moſt provinces.—Silk, cultivated with great ſucceſs in Provence and Languedoc.—In Normandy and Auvergne, plenty of horned cattle and mules.—In Burgundy, Normandy, and Alſace, the ſtrongeſt horſes.—France is ſupplied with ſhip timber from Alſace, Burgundy, and Lorrain, and more eſpecially, alſo, from the Pyrenean mountains; yet it is ſaid, that in the other provinces, a ſcarcity of timber, and of wood for fuel, begins to be ſenſibly felt.—France boaſts of mines of copper, lead and iron, and alſo ſome ſilver mines and marble quarries.—In all parts they make ſaltpetre. Theſe we may term her natural products. Her manufactures and improvements are very numerous. The ſingle city of Tours, in King Louis the Fourteenth's reign, abounded ſo much in the ſilk manufacture, as to have had eight thouſand looms and eight hundred mills conſtantly employed. In Lyons, according to Dr. Busching, there were formerly eighteen thouſand looms, but were in the year 1698 decreaſed to four thouſand, which was owing to their expelling the induſtrious Proteſtants, and to the wars of France with England, Holland, and Germany. Their woollen cloths and ſtuffs more eſpecially at Abbeville are ſaid to be little inferior to thoſe of England and Holland, aſſiſted by the clandeſtine importation of Engliſh wool.—Abbeville is alſo famous for its manufactures of linen, ſail cloth, and ſoap.—Auvergne for fine thread, lace and ſtuffs, and for paper accounted the fineſt in Europe.—Niſmes for fine ſerges and ſtuffs.—Cambray for cambrics, and St. Quintin for lawns.—In Picardy are the fineſt glaſs manufactures.—In other parts are fine manufactures of gold and ſilver ſtuff, embroideries, ſewing ſilk, ſattins, crapes, laces, toys, millenary-wares, tapeſtries, pluſh, hats,

hats, parchment, hardware, pot-aſh, pitch, oils of olives, turpentine, linſeed and almonds, brandy, rubies, &c. For her inland trade, her navigable rivers and canals, more eſpecially that called the Canal Royal in Languedoc are great conveniencies. France's coaſting trade, from one port to another, is alſo very conſiderable.—Her foreign trade extends to every part of the known world, either by land or by ſea. Her land trade extends to every part of the known world, either by land or by ſea. Her land trade to Switzerland and Italy is by the way of Lyons.—To Germany, through Metz and Straſburg.—To the Netherlands, through Liſle.—To Spain, a moſt profitable one, through Bayonne and Perpignan. As for her naval commerce, her ports in the Channel and on the Weſtern Ocean are frequented by all the trading nations of Europe, to her very great advantage, more eſpecially reſpecting what is carried on with England, Holland, and Italy.—The trade from her Mediterranean ports, more particularly from Marſeilles, with Aſia and Africa, has long been very conſiderable. The negro trade from Guinea ſupplies her ſugar colonies; beſide the gold, ivory, and drugs got from thence.—And her Eaſt India commerce, till lately, has been extremely proſperous.

France produces within herſelf moſt of the materials for ſhip-building, and her late efforts for augmenting and ſupporting a marine were ſuch as had never been before made by that country.—The people of France, according to the beſt accounts, amount to about twenty-four millions. Her eccleſiaſtics are computed to amount to above one hundred and ninety thouſand perſons, with an annual income of a great deal above one hundred millions of livres. Her convents, of both ſexes, are about one thouſand two hundred in number.

To begin with the French Netherlands:

French Flanders contains the caſtellany and city of Liſle, or Ryſſel, which is not only a moſt extenſive and important fortreſs, with an excellent citadel, but is a large city containing near one hundred thouſand people, thirty churches, &c. and many convents. Liſle carries on a great trade in manufactures of ſilk, camblets, cloths, ſtuffs, linen, &c. and is ſo fine a city as to be termed Little Paris.

2. Douay, a moderately large and ſtrong place, with eight churches, ſeveral convents, and an univerſity. At its annual fairs are vended great quantities of worſted camblets and other ſtuffs.

3. Cambray, on the Scheldt, is a large and ſtrong city, having ten pariſh churches, &c. It was long famous beyond any other place, for the fine linen to which it gave its name, though of late it is ſaid, other parts in this reſpect exceed it.

4. Dunkirk is an exceeding ſtrong place, with a fine citadel; its harbour is extremely improved, having two moles or piles forming a canal in the ſea, of one thouſand fathoms in length and forty in breadth, ſo as a ſhip of ſeventy cannon may paſs through it, and at the end of each of thoſe moles are batteries, and other forts and caſtles were erected on each hand, betwixt all which forts, ſhips were to paſs in their way to the harbour, contiguous to which was a large baſon: it had a flouriſhing trade, and Dr. Buſching relates, that in the year 1706, it contained one thouſand ſix hundred and thirty-nine houſes, and fourteen thouſand two hundred and ſeventy-four inhabitants.—For the ſake of England's commerce, however, France was obliged to ſtipulate, at the peace of Utrecht, in the year 1713, to deſtroy all Dunkirk's fortifications, and at her own charge alſo to fill up its harbour. In 1717, it was ſtipulated, at the Hague, betwixt England, France, and Holland, that the large entrance to the new ſluice at Mardyke ſhould be entirely demoliſhed, and that no harbour, ſluice, nor baſon, ſhould ever be made either at Mardyke or at Dunkirk, nor within two French leagues round. Notwithſtanding all which, France, as uſual, egregiouſly trifled with ſuch ſtipulations. At the laſt peace of Aix-la-Chapelle, in the year 1748, thoſe demolitions were again ſtipulated to be performed. But ſhe was ſo far from doing it, that, underhand, ſhe began ſome new works,

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the town was again fortified on the land side, the bason was widened and rendered as commodious for shipping as ever before, and all this done in the face of the whole world; but, by the treaty of 1763, it was again stipulated to be demolished, which was effected, and an English commissary appointed to reside there. But at the conclusion of the last war, the business of Dunkirk was entirely given up, and the French have now no obstructions to any plan of fortifying or strengthening that harbour, &c.

5. Graveline, a small but strong town.

6. Bourbourg, a small town, much reduced by the calamities of war, &c. though it has still two convents.

7. St. Wynoxberg, a strong place: and,

8. Cassel, the capital of a large castellany containing several little towns, and situate on the only mountain in Flanders.

II. French Hainault contains,

1. Valenciennes, a large, strong and populous town, on the Scheldt, with a considerable trade in manufactures of linen, silk, mohair goods and tabbies. It has many churches and convents.

The French part of the county of Namur contains only,

1. Charlemont, which is little more than a fortress commanding the Maese, but one of the finest of its kind in Europe.

2. Givet, a small modern handsome town, regularly fortified, commanded and protected by the former.

The whole Netherland province of Artois is entirely possessed by France, and is one of its finest provinces. It is fertile in grain, flax, hops, and wool, has considerable linen manufactures, tapestry, &c.

1. Arras, its capital, is a large, strong, and fine city, formerly peculiarly eminent for its fine tapestry hangings, named from this city, as being here invented: although in our days they come short of those of Paris, Brussels, and Antwerp. This city has also manufactures of sayes, and other light woollen stuffs, linen, &c. And Mr. Nugent thinks that the churches and chapels are above one hundred, including those of their many convents.

2. St. Omer is also a considerable place, and of some trade, having a cathedral, and six parish churches, two colleges, a celebrated abbey, and several convents.

3. 4. Aire and Bethune are very strong fortresses, but little is to be found in them of commerce or manufactures, though they contain many churches and convents. Bethune, indeed, has two considerable annual fairs.

The adjoining province of Picardy is a fine country.

1. Amiens is its chief city, and is a large and beautiful one on the Somme. Here are manufactured great quantities of ferret ribbons, half silk stuffs, linen, soap, and many other manufactures. It is populous, and has many churches and convents.

2. St. Quentin is likewise a considerable place, with many churches and convents: but is principally known for the vast quantities of its manufactures of lawn, which employ great numbers of people.

3. Abbeville, on the Somme, the tide rising six feet here, it has a great trade in grain, oil, flax, cordage and soap. Its fine woollen cloth manufacture has been famous ever since the year 1665, when it was first established by Van Roble from Holland.

4. Calais, though not large, yet carries on a considerable trade in wines, brandies, salt and flax.

The next adjoining province, southward, is that called the Isle of France, and is a fine and pleasant country, replete with all necessaries and conveniencies.

Paris, its capital, and also the capital of the whole kingdom, is a most superb and magnificent city. Its streets, according to Dr. Busching, are computed to amount to nine hundred and twelve. And its houses from four to seven stories high, to above twenty thousand, exclusive of churches, chapels, convents, colleges, communities, warehouses and shops. Dr. Busching adds, that the number of its inhabitants cannot greatly exceed four hundred thousand. For from the year 1728, to the year 1736, the medium of her annual bills of mortality was but seventeen thousand eight hundred: and, continues he, it is calculated, upon very probable computations, that of twenty-five persons in this city, one dies yearly. This is contrary to our most usual computations in England, viz. that even in great and populous cities there dies but one out of thirty yearly. Possibly, however, our said learned and otherwise judicious author, may have taken into this computation the great number of murders and of foundling children there, which may perhaps bring his supposition nearer to fact: but as, under the years 1760 and 1761, we have more fully handled this particular, we must refer thereto.—According to the last and best calculations by the Abbé Expilly, Paris is supposed to contain about six hundred and fifty thousand inhabitants.

We shall not so much as offer at a full description of this truly great city, of which enough is published in all European languages; our province being circumscribed within the narrower bounds of commercial considerations, we shall only very briefly observe, that (although we cannot join absolutely with one of King Francis the First's ministers, who being asked by the Emperor Charles V. then at Paris, which was the finest city of France; replied, Orleans: and, upon that Emperor's surprize, answered, like a true Frenchman, that Paris was rather a world than a single city!) Paris has in it all the usual allurements of great and magnificent capital cities, and perhaps more than most others have, for attracting the resort and admiration of foreigners, from almost all the different countries of Europe; either respecting its public and private edifices, squares and streets, or the amusements of plays, operas, and masquerades, the splendor of the court of so potent an absolute monarch, &c. And is, for those and such-like reasons, not only resorted to, with which we do not find fault, but too long resided in by many of our young nobility and gentry, not seldom to the dissipation of their estates, and too often of their morals and principles. Here are to be found the finest manufactures of gold and silver stuffs, the finest tapestry of the Gobelins, the most splendid equipages, the most exquisite paintings, sculpture, embroidery and statuary; and with all those allurements, are to be seen much poverty and the other concomitants of a government not founded in liberty.

And here we may add, that, as we have, in this brief introduction to the commercial description of France, given a summary view of its principal manufactures, productions and commerce, and have, in the following account, exhibited likewise a summary view of its principal cities and great towns, both inland and maritime, we may, for brevity's sake, be excused from the particular description of several lesser cities and towns, most of which display little else but a kind of splendid poverty, after abstracting from such places their cathedral, churches, abbeys, and convents; although, in point of the compass of ground they may stand on, they would, in other countries, pass for very considerable places. We have made much the same remark concerning Munster in Germany, which might likewise be made of various other cities of that and other parts of Christendom, where popery is triumphant, and their clergy rich and numerous; whereas in Protestant countries it may be observed, that, as there are few ecclesiastical edifices in their cities and towns, but what are for God's worship in a parochial way, such places do not generally appear so splendid, although they may contain

tain much more of wealth, commerce and manufactures than those other places, gay in external appearance, though, in reality, their lay-inhabitants are oft-times found to be poor and abject even in France, and much more in Spain, Portugal and Italy.

The environs, or country about Paris, is allowed to be considerably less populous than the environs of London. In the province named the isle of France, are several towns, though with small commerce, as, Corbeil, its principal trade being in skins.—Senlis, in wool.—Compiegne, chiefly trading in corn, wool and timber.—Noyon, its principal trade is in grain, though it has no less than ten parish churches, beside a cathedral, two abbeys, two convents, &c. Many of the rest of its cities and towns, are only generally described by the number of their churches, convents, and abbeys, without any thing relative to commerce or manufactures, and therefore we think it best to say nothing of them; and the same may be said of very many called cities and great towns, in the other provinces of France.

Beauvais, however, is a considerable city in this province, wherein is a very considerable manufacture of tapestry and of woollen cloths and serges. It contains a cathedral, six collegiate churches, thirteen parish churches, three abbeys, &c.

Dourdan, a small town, famous for its manufacture of silk and woollen stockings.—Melun trades to Paris in corn, meal, wine, and cheese.

In the government of Champagne and Brie, is,

1. Rheims, its large capital city, it carries on a considerable trade in the excellent wines of this province, and in woollen and silk stuffs, and fine ginger-bread. Beside its grand gothic cathedral, it has many fine parish churches, three collegiate ones, five abbeys, a fine college, nine convents, and several charity foundations.

2. Troyes, though somewhat decayed, has still fourteen churches, and carries on a trade in linen and canvas, in flax and hemp, canvas, fustians, serges, tapestry, needles, grain and wine.

3. Langres is noted for much cutlery wares.

4. Meaux, the capital of the province of Brie, which was once a large forest, its traffic is principally in grain, wool and cheese.

5. Sedan, once a famous academy of the French Protestants, has manufactures of cloth and serge.

The government of Metz comprehends the other two cities of Toul and Verdun, all, with their districts and lesser towns, conquered from the German empire.

Metz is a large and strong city, at the confluence of the Moselle and Seille, it has three chapters, sixteen parish churches, beside convents, &c. and some considerable trade in salt-works, &c. The other towns in this district have some inconsiderable trade.

Toul and Verdun are also large cities and bishoprics, and were formerly imperial cities.

Lorrain and Bar are countries fertile in grain, and have also mines of iron, copper, tin and silver; they have also many profitable salt-springs.

Nancy, its capital, is a very handsome city, has six churches and nineteen convents.

In the government of Burgundy.

In Burgundy dutchy there is a great fertility of corn and fruits, and excellent wines.

Dijon, its capital, is a large and strong city, having a Parliament, sixteen churches, and many other public structures. It deals much in Burgundy wines. Other lesser towns here deal also in wines, and have some woollen manufactures and salt works.

In Burgundy county, or Franche Compté, is Bezançon, its capital, and is large, fair and strong, containing many churches, convents and other public edifices. It deals largely in wines and excel-

lent corn. It contains a famous univerſity, and is the ſeat of a Parliament. Here alſo are many leſſer towns, dealing in hemp, wines, and minerals of various kinds.

The government of Alſace is doubtleſs a fine country, abounding in grain, fruits, wines, flax, hemp, tobacco, tartar, ſaffron. It alſo has mines of ſilver, iron, lead, and copper. It is ſaid to contain one thouſand market-towns and villages, and half a million of people.

Straſburgh, its once renowned capital, ſtands on a branch of the left ſide of the Rhine, and was, whilſt a free imperial city, large and populous. It at preſent contains about three thouſand two hundred houſes, four thouſand three hundred families, and forty thouſand inhabitants. It is much declined in commerce and wealth, ſince it fell into the poſſeſſion of France, as have alſo the ten lately imperial cities of this great province, for the ſame reaſon.

The government or province of Normandy is one of the moſt fertile in France, abounding in grain, fruits, flax, hemp, ſalt, iron, and copper mines, woad and other vegetables for dyers, fine paſtures and good cattle. They have little and alſo very indifferent wines, ſo that their uſual drink is cyder and perry.

In Upper Normandy is,

1. Caudebec, a ſmall but populous ſea port, on the right of the river Seine, once famous for a manufacture of felt hats, and it has ſtill ſome naval commerce.

2. St. Valery, a large market-town, having a ſmall harbour on the Engliſh Channel.

3. Dieppe, on the ſame coaſt, eminent for ſea-faring people, and for lace manufactures and ivory-works: ſome think it contains twenty thouſand inhabitants.

4. Rouen, on the Seine, is the capital of Normandy, the ſeat of a Parliament, and univerſity, a large and populous city, containing ſeven thouſand two hundred houſes, thirty-ſix pariſh churches, and ſixty-ſix convents. It has a very conſiderable commerce, both maritime and inland, veſſels of two hundred tons can ſail up with the tide to its great quay. It is a magazine of valuable merchandize to be diſperſed over a great part of France. It contains one hundred and twenty-five ſtreets, beſide ſquares and public edifices.

5. Caen is the ſecond town in Normandy, containing twelve churches, an univerſity, and fourteen convents, its principal trade is in woollen cloth, ſtuffs and fine linen, which alſo, though in a leſſer degree, are the manufactures of other ſmaller towns of this province.

6. Bayeux, on the river Aure, has ſeventeen churches, and ſundry convents and hoſpitals, but thin of inhabitants, becauſe of little commerce.

7. Le Havre de Grace is a ſtrong town, at the mouth of the Seine, with a good harbour, it was firſt built by King Francis I. and its proſperity has proved the ruin of its neighbour Harfleur.

The large and fine province of Bretagne contains many good cities and towns, viz.

1. Rennes, an inland city, on the river Villaine, being the capital of this province, and is large and populous.

2. Nantes, on the great river Loire, is one of the moſt conſiderable trading cities in the kingdom, being large and well ſituated for naval commerce; it has a great trade to the French American colonies, as alſo to Spain, Portugal, and other parts. Ships of great burden can get no further up the Loire than to Paimbeuf, a market-town, where their cargoes are put into ſmaller veſſels, and carried up to Nantes.

St. Malo, a ſmall but ſtrong and populous city, on a little rocky iſland in the ſea, but joined to the continent by a fortified mole and cauſeway. In peaceable times it carries on a conſiderable trade with England, Holland, and Spain, and in time of war is conveniently ſituated for privateering, as Engliſh traders have often fatally experienced, and is commonly termed one of the keys of France.

4. Vannes,

4. Vannes, a confiderable fea-port on Morbian Bay, but though it has a very good harbour, it is not particularly eminent for commerce.

5. Port Louis had its prefent name and fortifications from King Louis XIV. its former name having been Blavet, feated on a river of that name: its prefent trade is in eels and pilchards.

6. Port L'Orient is a modern town near Port Louis, higher up the oppofite fide of the river Blavet; folely deftined for the reception and convenience of the French Eaft India Company's fhipping, warehoufes, naval ftores, docks, wharfs, &c. and well fortified.

7. Morlaix is a fmall fea-port privateering town, in war time, and in peaceable times carries on fome naval commerce.

8. Breft is a fmall but very ftrong town and port, with a moft fpacious and fine fortified road and harbour, the beft and fafeft in all the kingdom: yet its entrance is difficult, by reafon of many rocks lying under water. At Breft is a Court of Admiralty, an academy for fea officers, docks and magazines for all kinds of naval ftores, rope-yards, fail-lofts, ftorehoufes, &c. Infomuch that it may now be termed the capital receptacle on the ocean for the navy royal of France, and is admirably well adapted for that end.

The fmall ifles of Oueffant, or Ufhant, lie near Breft Bay, on one of which there is a light-houfe for the conveniency of fhips going into or coming out of Breft, and a fort.

Belle-Ifle is, on all fides, environed with rocks, excepting at its three landing places; at one of which is fituated its fortified town of Palais.

The fmall ifle of Sain, on this coaft, is very dangerous, by reafon of rocks and fhallows about it.

The Ifle of Bas, lying oppofite to the city of St. Pol de Leon on the Continent, forms a fine road. All this coaft abounds in pilchards.

In this noble province there are more good ports, either adapted for war or for commerce, than in any other of the kingdom.

In the inland counties of Maine and Perche, is,

1. The city of Mans, containing fixteen parifh churches, twelve convents, and other public edifices, and fifteen thoufand inhabitants, but nothing elfe memorable.

2. Mortagne has four churches and as many convents, and has fome confiderable manufactures of coarfe linens.

In the government of Poictou, are,

1. Poictiers, its capital, an inland city, on the river Clain, it is of a large extent, and full of churches and convents. Its manufactures are gloves, combs, woollen caps and ftockings for the American colonies.

2. The ifles of Noirmoutier and of Yeu lie on this coaft; the former is populous, and has two little towns, but the latter has nothing memorable.

The government of Orleanois, though entirely inland, yet, by means of the great river Loire, it carries on the moft extenfive trade, in its kind, of any part of the kingdom; and, by means alfo of the canal of Briare, begun by King Henry the Fourth, and compleated by his fon Louis the Thirteenth, by which the Loire is joined the to Loing, which falls into the Seine, whereby a water-communication is formed between the countries on the Loire and the city of Paris: alfo by means of another canal, beginning a fmall way above the city of Orleans, being in length about eighteen leagues, with thirty fluices on it, and ending in the Loing. This was begun in 1682, and compleated in 1692.

1. The city of Orleans ftands on the Loire, over which it has a fine ftone bridge. It is one of the largeft cities in the kingdom, though for the moft part but meanly built. It contains twenty-two parifh

pariſh churches, and many convents, hoſpitals, and other public edifices, an univerſity, a cathedral, &c. Its ſituation, in the midway up the Loire, renders it the magazine of almoſt the whole trade of the kingdom, more eſpecially reſpecting grain, wines, brandy, and ſpices. Here is alſo a conſiderable trade in ſtockings and ſheepſkins, and here alſo are ſome ſugar bakers. Other conſiderable cities in this province are Chartres, Blois, and Vendom, of which we can ſay little, conſidering they lie in ſo fine a province, but that they abound in churches and convents.

The government of Saumur, on the Loire, contains Saumur, its capital, much more opulent when poſſeſſed by the Proteſtants, than at preſent, though it has ſtill three pariſhes and nine convents, but nothing memorable in a commercial ſenſe.

The government of Anjou, eaſt of Bretagne, produces grain, flax, coal, iron, and ſaltpetre; has for its capital,

Angers, a large and populous city, with a cathedral, ſixteen pariſh churches, and many convents. Mr. Nugent makes its houſes amount to nine thouſand, and its inhabitants to thirty-ſix thouſand. It has manufactures of ſerges, camblets, and other ſtuffs, and a conſiderable trade in general.

The government of Nivernois

It is an inland country, lying on the weſt ſide of Burgundy, and produces wines, grain, fruits, ſome iron mines, and plenty of wood and pit coal.

Nevers, on the Loire, is its only conſiderable city, has eleven pariſh churches, a cathedral, and ſeveral convents. It is celebrated for its porcelain and glaſs manufactures, and enamel works.

The government of Bourbonnois has corn, good wine and fruits, and is eminent for its mineral waters.

Moulins, its beſt town, has nothing conſiderable in a commercial ſenſe.

The government of Berry lies ſouth of the Orleanois, and, beſide grain, produces wine, which in ſome parts is ſaid to be equal to that of Burgundy, alſo good wool, hemp, and flax.

1. Bourges, its capital, has ſo many collegiate and pariſh churches, convents, abbeys, &c. that the clergy and their dependents conſtitute the majority of its inhabitants, and therefore has very little of any thing like commerce.

2. Chateau-Roux has four churches, three convents, and a conſiderable woollen cloth manufactory.

The government of Touraine lies weſt of Orleanois, and is ſo delightful a country as to be termed the Garden of France, abounding with grain, wines, fine fruits, iron and copper.

Tours, its capital, on the Loire, is a large city, having conſiderable manufactures of cloth of gold, ſilk, and woollen cloth.

From the money firſt coined here, and ſtill current through France, aroſe the denomination of livres, ſols, and deniers Tournois.

The government of Auvergne, an inland country, ſouth of Bourbonnois, its lower part is fertile, and abounds in grain, wine, fruits, forage, ſaffron, and hemp; but Upper Auvergne is cold, its mountains tops being covered with ſnow ſeven or eight months in the year, and yet is ſaid to have excellent paſtures. This country carries on a great trade in manufactures of ſilk, woollen cloth and ſtuffs, beautiful laces, and paper deemed the fineſt in Europe.

1. Clermont, the capital of Lower Auvergne, is a fine, large, well-built city, a cathedral, with many churches and convents.

2. St. Flour, in the Upper Province, ſtands on a mountain; yet its carpets, woollen cloths, and knives, are much eſteemed, as are alſo thoſe of Aurillac and Clermont.

The

The government of Limosin, west of Auvergne.

Limoges, its capital, is but a mean place; yet in other smaller towns here are manufactures of woollen cloth and paper.

In the government of La Marche, west of Auvergne, there are no eminent towns, yet they have some manufactures of tapestry.

The government of Saintonge and Angoumois is situated to the north of the great river Garonne; abounds in grain, wines, and excellent salt.

1. Saintes, capital of Saintonge, on the Charente, is but a mean town.

2. St. Jean d'Angely makes woollen stuffs and fine brandy.

3. Angoulesme, on the Charente, has a cathedral, twelve parish churches, ten convents, a Jesuits college, and a general hospital. The adjacent country of Angoumois produces grain, Spanish corn, wine, saffron, some excellent iron mines, and fine paper.

The government of Aunis lies south of Saintonge. It is reckoned a barren part of France, and yet produces good grain and wine, and the very best of salt, it has many swamps in it, yet good harbours along its coast, particularly,

1. Brouage, a strong but small sea-port, most eminent for the excellent salt, made in its neighbouring salt marshes in vast quantities, as has also Marennes, another sea-port, which produces excellent wine.

2. Rochfort, a modern strong-built town, on the river Charente, has an excellent dock for shipping, large magazines of naval stores, a royal marine academy, and an hospital for seamen.

3. Rochelle, a famous sea-port, the capital of Aunis, has a good harbour, though rather a fine than a large city: here is an admiralty, a chamber of commerce, a sugar refinery. Rochelle carries on a great commerce in wines, and also more especially to the French American colonies, and their African settlements:

The isles on this coast, are,

1. Oleron, famous for its ancient sea laws, as it is, to this day, for good seamen. It is a fruitful island.

2. Rhe, has plenty of wine, and very good brandy, exported from its small fortified town named St. Martin's.

4. Aix Isle, at the mouth of the Charente, on which there was a fort for the defence of the entrance to that river, till it was demolished in the year 1757, by the brave Captain Howe.

The government of Lyonois produces grain, wine, fruits, copper and vitriol.

1. Lyons, its great capital, may, next to Paris, be deemed the largest, and, for an inland city, the richest and most trading of the kingdom. It is seated at the confluence of the two famous rivers Rhone and Saone, having two wooden bridges over the latter, and one of stone over the Rhone. In point of magnitude it is about one fourth part of Paris, has two fine squares, a fine town-house, an exchange, a fine arsenal, many churches, convents, and hospitals. The bulk of its inhabitants are manufacturers of gold, silver, and silk stuffs, and of gold and silver lace. Formerly the looms in and about this city amounted to about eighteen thousand, but in the year 1698 their number was found to be reduced to four thousand: though it is still in great repute for the before-named manufactures, and for the beautiful lustre of its bombazeens. Its trade, in brief, extends not only all over France, but even to Spain, Italy, Switzerland, Germany, the Netherlands, and England.

2. St. Estienne de Furens, is a large and populous town, and carries on a great trade in hardware, being their principal manufacture.

In

In the government of Guienne and Gaſcony.

The country abounds ſo much with vines, that they ſtand propped, almoſt like trees, in the open fields.

1. Bourdeaux, its capital, on the river Garonne, is a city of great commerce, where, for its preſervation and improvement, the Engliſh, Dutch, Danes, Hamburgers, and Lubeckers, though Proteſtants, are connived at in the exerciſe of their religion in their own houſes, as are likewiſe the Portugueſe Jews. Bourdeaux is reported to export annually one hundred thouſand tons of wine; beſide brandy, cheſnuts, prunes, figs, and many other ſorts of merchandize. This city is thought to contain about fifty thouſand inhabitants.

2. At Blaye, on the Garonne, going up to Bourdeaux, ſhips are obliged to leave their cannon and arms till they return: and the Garonne being there very wide, there is a battery on an iſland, beſide a fort on either ſhore. At Bourdeaux is an univerſity and a parliament; it has many fair ſtreets, markets, churches, convents, and charitable foundations.

3. The leſſer towns of Aiguillon, Clerac, Marmande, &c. carry on a conſiderable trade in hemp, tobacco, grain, wine, and brandy.

4. Montauban is a large, handſome, and polite city, on the river Tarne; its principal trade conſiſting in ſilk and woollen ſtuffs: it contains about eighteen thouſand inhabitants.

Gaſcony conſtitutes the ſouth part of this government, of which

Bayonne is a conſiderable fortified ſea-port, with a fine harbour, and well frequented by ſhipping. It has a conſiderable trade in wines, in Spaniſh wool brought over the Pyrenean mountains on mules, in return for French ſugars. Hither alſo is brought down in floats, from the rivers running between the Pyrenean mountains, timber for ſhip-building, thence afterwards ſent to Breſt and other ports.

In French Navarre and Bearn, the only town of note, is,

Pau, its capital, which produces good wine, and has a woollen manufacture.

In the government of Languedoc, the fineſt province in France for health and fertility, there is abundance of corn, wine, oil, fruits, ſalt, ſaffron, glaſs, ſoap, marble, metals, and minerals; but its coaſts are dangerous, and want good and ſecure harbours. The grand royal canal of this province, intended to join the Ocean with the Mediterranean ſea, from Toulouſe to Agdé on the Mediterranean, ſo as ſhips might paſs from one ſea to another, was executed between the years 1666 and 1680; a work much to the credit of Louis XIV. Yet it is doubted by ſome, whether the expence of keeping it in repair does not overbalance its advantages.

1. Toulouſe, its capital, is pleaſantly ſeated on the Garonne, which ſome think is, next to Paris, the largeſt city in France, having a great number of fine churches, convents, &c. Yet its trade is but inconſiderable, being chiefly in Spaniſh wool, Bergamo carpets, and ſome ſlight woollen ſtuffs. Here is a famous univerſity: and at half an hour's diſtance below Toulouſe, ſays Buſching, the celebrated royal canal before-mentioned joins the Garonne, which here becomes navigable.

In ſeveral leſſer towns of this noble province there are fine woollen and ſilk manufactures; as at Clermont, Alais, Marvejols, &c. and excellent wines.

2. Montpelier, next after Toulouſe, is the largeſt city of this province; and, by means of the river Laz, and the lakes near it, carries on at the harbour of Cette, the greateſt maritime trade of this province, though not of very great conſideration, viz. wines, and, in good years, corn for Italy and Spain; oils and cloth to Switzerland, Germany, and the Levant; dried cheſnuts and raiſins to Tunis and Algiers. Montpelier's principal ſtaple is verdigriſe, in which it carries on a very conſiderable

ſiderable trade; as alſo in aqua vitæ, and Hungary and cinnamon waters, fuſtian, and woollen carpets.

3. Nimes is likewiſe a large city, having ſuch a number of manufactures of cloth of gold and ſilk, and of ſtuffs formerly known by the name of Serge de Nimes, as exceeds that of all the reſt of the province. Narbonne and Beziers ſtand pleaſantly, but have little commerce. But Beaucaire has a fair, which holds for ten days, and is very famous for the vaſt quantities of raw ſilk ſold at it. And at Alais the quantity of unwrought ſilk carried out of it yearly is ſaid to amount to one million two hundred thouſand pounds weight.

In the county of Rouſillon, its capital, is the ſtrong fortreſs of Perpignan, a frontier on the ſide of Spain; but neither in it, nor in any other part of this county, is there any memorable commerce or manufactures.

In the government of Provence are,

1. Aix, its capital city, and an univerſity. It is large, fair, and well-built, having in it ſeveral fine churches, convents, &c. Its neighbourhood yields good wine, and incomparable oil of olives, with which it drives a great trade. Here alſo are ſome ſtuffs manufactured.

2. Arles is a large city on the Rhone; but, according to Dr. Buſching, is no way remarkable for trade or manufactures, having an unhealthy ſituation.

3. Marſeilles is a large opulent, and ancient city, being one of the greateſt in France, conſiſting of near one hundred thouſand inhabitants. Here the royal gallies are uſually built and ſtationed; but its harbour cannot admit of ſhips of above ſix hundred tons burden. Here is a large arſenal, ſtorehouſes, docks, &c. for the King's gallies. Gold and ſilver ſtuffs are here manufactured: but this city's higheſt renown is from its great maritime commerce; almoſt all the trade of France with Spain and Italy, and the entire commerce with the Levant being carried on from Marſeilles.

To Italy, France ſends cloths, ſerges, honey, prunes, figs, capers, olives, oil, ſail cloth, aqua vitæ, and cotton manufactures; and brings back rice, corn, ſulphur, aniſe, manna, and ſilk: leaving a balance in favour of Italy of two hundred thouſand livres, ſays Dr. Buſching; (a balance ſurely ſo ſmall as may be difficult to aſcertain).—To Spain, France exports all kinds of linen, ſilk, and woollen, gold and ſilver ſtuffs, thread and lace, with ſeveral other both home and Levant commodities, to the amount of above nine millions of livres: but its imports from Spain are leſs by two millions, (this is indeed a conſiderable balance in favour of France.) The trade of Marſeilles for raw ſilk, &c. to the Levant, is very great, *i. e.* to Salonichi, Athens, the Archipelago Iſles, Conſtantinople, Smyrna, Aleppo, Tripoli in Syria, Candia, Cairo, and Alexandria; both with reſpect to exports and imports. Nevertheleſs, Marſeilles lies under the diſadvantage of having near the entrance into its harbour, a rocky cape of ſome danger and difficulty.

4. Toulon, a modern ſea-port of very great conſequence, become a conſiderable large city from an inconſiderable town, through King Louis the Fourteenth's application in fortifying it and its harbour for the reception and protection of the navy-royal. Its old and its new harbour lie contiguous, and, by means of a canal, ſhips paſs from the one to the other, both of them having an outlet into the ſpacious outer harbour. Its arſenal, eſtabliſhed alſo by that King, has a particular ſtorehouſe for every particular ſhip of war, its guns, cordage, &c. being ſeparately laid up. Here are ſpacious workſhops for blackſmiths, joiners, carpenters, lockſmiths, carvers, &c. Its rope-walk of ſtone is three hundred and twenty toiſes in length, with three arched walks Its general magazine ſupplies whatever may be wanting in the particular ſtorehouſes, and contains an immenſe quantity of all kinds of ſtores diſpoſed in the greateſt order.

In the government of Dauphiné is,

1. Grenoble, its capital, a populous inland city; but not remarkable either for trade or manufactures.

2. Vienne, an ancient but decayed city, at present chiefly memorable for the making of anchors, sword-blades, and other iron and steel manufactures. It has likewise a paper manufacture.

3. Orange, the capital of a principality of that name, is not particularly remarkable for trade, nor for manufactures.

The small district of Avignon lies within the bounds of Languedoc, though near this country; but has for several centuries been subject to the Papal See, governed by a Legate appointed by the Pope.

Avignon, its capital city, on the right of the river Rhone, is a large and handsome place; is walled, but carries on little traffick. It is well filled with churches, chapels, abbies, convents, colleges, &c. it has a court of inquisition, an archbishopric, and an university.

PORTUGAL.

Portugal is considerably more temperate than Spain; yet although the soil be very fruitful, so much is agriculture neglected, that above half the country lies waste, and they are supplied with most of their corn by importation. It abounds indeed with good wine, oil, honey, wax, oranges, lemons, pomegranates, figs, raisins, almonds, chesnuts, and other excellent fruits, and much sea salt, and sea and river fish. It is in most parts mountainous, and in them are contained silver, copper, tin, and iron ores: yet no mines are worked in Portugal, as they are supplied more easily with gold and silver from their foreign plantations. Here are many kinds of gems, a beautifully variegated marble, good mill stones, and a remarkable mine of saltpetre on a hill near Lisbon.

Dr. Busching relates, that it was carefully and very accurately computed, in the year 1737, there were in Portugal three thousand three hundred and forty-four parishes, and one million seven hundred and forty-two thousand two hundred and thirty-four lay-persons, which is but five hundred and twenty-two laity to each parish on a medium; beside about three hundred thousand ecclesiastics of both sexes: so that at most there may be two millions of people in Portugal.

Although the Portuguese are possessed of some fine materials for manufactures, they dispose of them rough to foreigners. They are equally neglectful of arts and handicrafts: yet they manufacture a little linen, and some coarse silk and woollen: they have a variety of straw-work; and they candy and preserve several kinds of fruits.—The commerce of Portugal, though seemingly extensive, proves of little solid benefit to her, as the European nations trading with her engross all the productions of her colonies, as well as her own native commodities, as her gold, diamonds, pearls, sugars, cocoa-nuts, fine red-wood, tobacco, hides, and the drugs of Brasil; her ivory, ebony, spices, and drugs of Africa and East India; in exchange for the almost numberless manufactures, and the vast quantity of corn and salt-fish, supplied by those European nations and by our own North American colonies.

Portugal in her own shipping has but little trade with other European nations: the principal use she makes of them being the carrying of such great quantities of negroes as there is a constant demand for from her noble colony of Brasil, and some of her shipping are also sent to her once flourishing ones in the East Indies, though now of small importance to her. But from Brasil it is computed, that the King's fifth of gold alone, amounts to three hundred thousand pounds sterling annually,

or

or one year with another; all the gold of that colony coming little ſhort of two millions ſterling yearly.

Her beſt cities and towns, beginning northward from Gallicia, are,

1. Viana, a ſtrong and well-built ſea-port, containing about ſeven thouſand inhabitants; but its harbour is only proper for the admiſſion of ſmall veſſels

2. Porto, or Oporto, on the river Douro, is a large trading city; but there is a bar at its harbour which is ſomewhat dangerous and difficult, on account of ſome ſandbanks and rocks. In opulence, populouſneſs, commerce, and beauty, it is the next city to Liſbon, containing, according to Dr. Buſching, above twenty thouſand ſeven hundred inhabitants; yet others make it conſiderably larger, even ſo far as to amount to fifty thouſand inhabitants. It is here the trade to England for Portugal wines chiefly centers, to the amount of a great many thouſand tons annually.

3. Braga is an inland city, containing about twelve thouſand three hundred inhabitants, an ancient archiepiſcopal cathedral, and four pariſh churches, beſide convents.

4. Coimbra, a pretty inland city and univerſity, on the river Mondega, having nine pariſh churches, and eleven thouſand nine hundred inhabitants.

5. Liſbon city, on the Tagus, in latitude thirty-eight degrees, twenty-five minutes, according to Dr. Buſching does not, at moſt, exceed one hundred and fifty thouſand inhabitants, although others think the number amounts to two hundred thouſand. The air here is temperate and healthy. It had in it many fine palaces, and other fair public and private edifices, but moſt of them were overthrown in the calamitous earthquake in the year 1755.

Its trade, and the vaſt navigation to and from it are ſo very conſiderable, that its cuſtom-houſe is the principal ſource of the King's European revenues. Here is the grand magazine of all the merchandize which the Portugueſe import from their foreign colonies. This harbour is extremely ſpacious, deep, ſecure, and convenient, and has two entrances. The city is walled, having thereon ſeventy-ſeven towers and thirty-ſix gates. In its center, on one of its hills, ſtands a citadel, commanding the whole city. Cloſe by the ſea, at the diſtance of three Portugueſe miles from the city, both the entrances to the harbour are defended by two forts, the one named St Julian, on a rock in the ſea, the other, named Bogio, to the ſouth, is built on piles on a ſand-bank. Two miles from St. Julian, and one from Liſbon, ſtands the fort of Belem, which commands the entrance into the city, and where all ſhips coming up the Tagus muſt ſtop and give an account of themſelves: and directly oppoſite, on the ſouth ſide, ſtands the fort of St. Sebaſtian, on the angle of a mountain, all along which, a little way on the other ſide of the city, the paſſage is defended from the beginning of the harbour by a chain of twelve forts.

6. Abrantes, a finely ſituated and fortified town, higher up the Tagus, contains about three thouſand five hundred inhabitants. The country between Liſbon and this town yields a moſt delicious proſpect, is extremely fertile, and is particularly famous for the excellence of its peaches.

7. Santarem, on the Tagus, lies in a delightful plain, containing a citadel, thirteen churches, and as many convents; but Dr. Buſching, from whom we have this account, does not tell us the number of its inhabitants.

8. Setuval, commonly called St. Ubes by the Engliſh and Dutch, is a very ſtrong town, on a ſmall bay of the ocean, with a harbour capable of ſhips of any burden. It has four churches and ten convents, and a very large ſalt-office; this place being famous for ſupplying immenſe quantities of ſalt to foreign nations.

9. Evora is an inland city with an univerſity; having about twelve thouſand inhabitants, five churches and ſeveral hoſpitals and convents.

10. Estremos, a strong town, having about six thousand five hundred inhabitants, three churches, six convents, and an hospital.

11. Beja has six thousand two hundred inhabitants, four churches, seven convents, and an hospital.

12. Elvas, a strong frontier town, has four churches, seven convents, and an hospital.

13. Olivença, another frontier town, having two churches, one convent, and an hospital.

In the little kingdom of Algarva, there are vast quantities of wine, oil, corn, almonds, figs, and other fruits.

1. Lagos is a strong port town of about two thousand six hundred inhabitants, two churches, and four convents.

2. Tavira, another strong sea-port of four thousand seven hundred inhabitants, two churches, and five convents.

3. Faro, a modern fortification and sea-port of four thousand five hundred inhabitants, two churches, four convents, and an hospital. It is separated by an arm of the sea from Cape St. Maries.

Portugal's European Islands, *viz.*

In the Atlantic Ocean, though, strictly speaking, they are not properly within the bounds usually assignedto Europ e, though near it, are the two isles of

I. Porto Santo, it is five Portuguese miles in length and two in breadth, its principal town of the same name containing about six hundred inhabitants.

II. Madeira, near the other, is eighteen Portuguese miles in length and about four in breadth.—Its principal town is Funchal. Here is a considerable trade from several nations for its excellent wines, great quantities whereof are sent to our West India colonies, and also much is consumed in England, the original plants of which were brought from the isle of Candia. This isle is well defended by forts.

III. The Azores, or Tercera Isles, called also the Western Isles, are nine in number, viz.

1. Santa Maria, or St. Maries, has a small town named Porto.

2. St. Michael, having two principal harbours, named Ponta del Gada and Villafranca; being the best peopled of all these islands, containing about fifty thousand inhabitants, and great plenty of corn, millet, and wine.—Ponta del Gada, its chief town, has an open harbour defended by a fort, and has three churches and seven convents.—Villafranca town has two parish churches and two convents.—Here are also four other pretty good towns.

3. Tercera has Angra for its chief town. Dr. Busching calls it a populous city, well fortified with handsome broad streets, and it contains a cathedral, five parish-churches, a poor-house, an hospital, and eight convents.—There are also some other towns in this island.

4. St. George has three or four small villages or towns in it.

5. Graciosa has two small towns in it.

6. Fayal's chief town is Villa de Horta.—This isle gives name to some of the best wine of these isles.

7. Pico is visible at a great distance, by reason of its high mountain, said to be three miles in height. It carries on a great trade in its excellent wines; the principal port-town being Villa das Lagens. Here is also a trade in cedar wood, and in a certain red wood highly prized.

8. Flores Isle has three roads, and two villas or towns.

9. Corvo is a small isle, has but one church and two small harbours.

These isles could not be ranked with any other quarter of the globe so properly as that of Europe, although they lie some hundred miles west from the continent of Europe, and directly west from Portugal.

SPAIN.

SPAIN.

Spain, through a neglect of tillage, has a scarcity of corn, though anciently it was famous for a great plenty of it. It however abounds in the most delicious fruits, as peaches, olives, figs, lemons, oranges, pomegranates, almonds, chesnuts, pears, &c. And her wines, more especially her Sacks, are in great esteem by foreign nations; so that, according to Dr. Busching, the yearly value of the wines, raisins, &c. exported from the country about Malaga alone, amounts to a million and a half of piastres (an imaginary or ideal coin worth three shillings and seven pence sterling) or two hundred and sixty-eight thousand seven hundred and fifty pounds sterling. Some parts of Spain produce sugar canes, the best of saffron and honey, silk in great abundance; salt, especially towards the sea coasts, is in so great plenty that considerable quantities of it are exported. Such vast flocks of sheep are seen, that Ustariz, a late famous politico-commercial Spanish author, computes the number of shepherds in Spain to amount to forty thousand. The best of their very fine wool is that of Old Castile. They have fine horses and many mules; but few black cattle. The mountains of Spain yield much ship-timber, and tar and pitch are made in Arragon and Catalonia. Those mountains are by ancient authors said to be very rich in gold and silver; but the Spaniards are rather inclined to have those precious metals from America than to take the trouble of searching for them at home. Yet it seems their iron mines are worked with great skill and success. They have likewise lead, tin, cinnabar, quicksilver, alum, vitriol, copperas, lapis calaminaris, chrystal, diamonds, amethysts, &c.

Spain, according to Ustariz, contains about seven millions and a half of people, though others think not near so many, and could well support as many more, were it properly cultivated.—One of the principal causes of the thinness of people in the finest parts of Spain, as in both Castiles, &c. is the total decay of handicrafts and manufactures, which formerly flourished therein, also to the number of persons in convents restrained from propagation, amounting to two hundred thousand, beside the secular clergy, amounting to fifty thousand more. The heavy taxes Ustariz assigns as another cause thereof: whilst the mountainous parts of Gallicia, Asturias, Biscay, Navarre, and Burgos, are still the best peopled countries of Spain, even although from them were sent the greatest number of people who first planted Spanish America. The bulk of the Spanish people are very poor and lazy, though living in so improvable a country. Other causes of the great poverty of Spain are,

First, Their draining their country of so much money for corn, fish, and many other things from foreign countries.

Secondly, The insatiable avarice of the clergy, to whom the people are mere slaves.

Thirdly, Their inquisition.

Fourthly, Their disdaining to stoop to handicrafts and trades, the greatest part of which are in the hands of the French, who are very numerous in Spain. Yet they are not without some manufactures both of silk and wool: some of which, however, after having been set on foot at a great expence, have afterwards been ruined by the inquisition and the monks.

Its most considerable cities and towns, beginning from the north side in Gallicia, are,

1. Ferrol, a handsome sea port in Gallicia, having a fine harbour where part of the royal navy is usually built and stationed.

2. Compostella, its capital, is no otherwise eminent than for many fine churches and convents, and very little commerce.

In Asturias, St. Andero has a large and well fortified harbour; and its neighbourhood abounds with fine fruits and wine.

In Biſcay, Bilboa is a famous city, on the river Nervio, has a fine harbour, very much frequented by foreign ſhipping. It is large and well built, carrying on a great trade in iron, wool, military weapons, ſaffron, and cheſnuts; and has very cheap proviſions.

In Guipuſco is the ſtrong and fine ſea port of St. Sebaſtian, having neat and fine churches, convents, and ſtreets. It carries on a conſiderable trade in iron, ſteel, and wool; and, in the year 1728, a company was eſtabliſhed here, for trading in Cacao to the Caraccas, in America.

2, Vitoria, though an inland town in this province, has a great trade in iron and ſteel, wine, wool, and fine ſword-blades; and therefore is much frequented.

In the kingdom of Leon, entirely an inland country, there are ſcarcely any commercial towns. Leon, its capital, is an ancient, declining city. And Salamanca, though large and populous, is principally famous for its univerſity, the moſt eminent of any in Spain, conſiſting of twenty-five colleges.

Of Eſtremadura, alſo an inland province, next the frontiers of Portugal, it may be ſaid, that the cities and towns of Albuquerque, Badajos, Merida, Alcantara, and Guadaloup, with their adjacent countries, abound in excellent wool, wine, and fine fruits; and Albuquerque is ſaid to have ſome woollen manufactures.

Andaluſia is the fineſt province of Spain. It abounds in wines, fine fruits, oil, vaſt quantities of ſilk, grain, honey, ſugar, horſes, metals, &c. and contains the following eminent and mercantile places, viz.

1. Seville, its capital, ſeated on the river Guadalquivir, is the largeſt city in Spain, after Madrid. It carries on a large commerce, although in the year 1717, its famous Contractation Houſe, or Office for the commerce of the Spaniſh American colonies, was removed to Cadiz, and ſtill remains there. Dr. Buſching relates, that Seville, and its once flouriſhing manufactures have very much dwindled ſince that period; ſo that out of ſixteen thouſand artificers in wool and ſilk, ſcarce four hundred remain there at preſent. This city and its diſtrict are ſaid to have been more populous when ſubject to the Moors than at preſent. It, however, contains twenty-nine churches, ſeventy-four monaſteries, twenty-four hoſpitals, and near as many ſquares or piazzas, an exchange for merchants, and an univerſity. And its neighbourhood abounds in grain, wines, and fine fruits, and much oil is made here.

2. St. Lucar de Barrameda is a well built but declining town, at the mouth of the river Guadalquivir, where it has a good harbour. Its principal trade is in ſalt.

3. Xeres, which we commonly pronounce Sherry, is a large town. Its wines, with us called Sherries, are very much eſteemed, and exported to foreign parts: and its horſes are alſo much prized.

4. Port St. Mary's enjoys a flouriſhing trade; it lies at the mouth of the little river Guadalete, directly oppoſite to Cadiz, and exceeds it in compaſs of ground, though ſcarcely containing eight thouſand people. Here reſide, in peaceable times, great numbers of Engliſh, French, Dutch, Genoeſe, &c. merchants. Its harbour is the rendezvous of ſome of the Spaniſh gallies; and here are made great quantities of ſalt.

5. Cadiz, a moſt eminent commercial city, ſtands on an iſland, ſeparated from the continent of Andaluſia by a very narrow arm of the ſea, over which a fortified bridge joins it to the ſaid continent. It is of a moderately large circumference, and contains thirteen convents, though it has properly but one church, which is its cathedral, and yet its ſettled inhabitants are computed at forty thouſand. Moſt of its ſtreets are narrow, crooked, dirty, and ill-paved; houſe rents and proviſions are dear, and good water very ſcarce. Before and at the arrival of the American flota, Cadiz is always

ways crouded with ſtrangers, to the number, as it is ſaid, of fifty thouſand, reſorting thither on account of commerce, and occaſioning an extraordinary circulation of money and expence. Cadiz is the proper center of the whole Spaniſh American commerce. Hither other European nations ſend their merchandize, to be ſhipped off in Spaniſh bottoms for America, ſheltered, or, as our old English phraſe has it, coloured, under the names of Spaniſh factors. Thoſe foreign nations have here their and agents correſpondents, and the conſuls of thoſe nations make a conſiderable figure. Cadiz has been ſaid to have the fineſt ſtorehouſes and magazines for commerce of any city in Europe; and to it the flota and galeons regularly import the treaſures of Spaniſh America.

The proper Spaniſh merchandize exported from Cadiz to America are of no great value; but the duty on the foreign merchandize ſent thither would yield a great revenue, and conſequently the profits of merchants and their agents would ſink, were it not for the many fraudulent practices for eluding thoſe duties. The entrance into the Bay and Harbour of Cadiz is well defended by Fort Matagorda, on the eaſt or continent ſide, running out on a promontory, and by Fort Puntal, over againſt it, alſo running out on a point from the iſland. The Spaniards uſually call thoſe two forts the Puntal, between which the ſea is ſaid to be but five hundred fathoms wide: and when an enemy's fleet approaches Cadiz, and thereupon the galeons, &c. are ſaid to be placed behind the Puntals, it is thereby meant that they are then out of danger from an attack or aſſault.

6. The town of Gibraltar is not ſo much to be conſidered, either for its extent or beauty, as for its ſtrength and ſituation, which renders it one of the keys of Spain. And therefore the crown of Great Britain has continued to improve and enlarge its fortifications ever ſince it came under its power, in the year 170., to the preſent moment.

7. Cordova, or Corduba, alſo in Andaluſia, is a large and beautiful inland city, ſtanding on the river Guadalquivir, once the capital of a Mooriſh kingdom of that name. It ſtills enjoys a great trade, though not populous in proportion to its large extent, as having vineyards and gardens within its circuit. The adjacent mountains are covered with vineyards and plantations of lemons, oranges, figs, and olives; which, when in bloſſom, diffuſe a fragrance all over the country.

8. Jaen was likewiſe the capital of a ſmall Mooriſh kingdom of that name. It is a populous inland city, having ſome fine churches and convents: and its neighbourhood has plenty of corn, wine, oil, fruits, and ſilk.

Granada, the lateſt kingdom of the Moors of Spain, is extremely pleaſant, healthy, populous, and fruitful, having an exuberancy of corn, wine, oil, ſugar, ſilk, flax, hemp, and excellent fruits; ſuch as pomegranates, citrons, lemons, oranges, olives, capers, figs, almonds, and raiſins of two kinds, viz. thoſe dried by the ſun on the branches, and thoſe dipped in a lye made of the aſhes of the burnt branches, and afterward dried in the ſun. Here alſo are produced galls, dates, ſhumack, &c.

1. Granada, once its auguſt capital city, is ſtill one of the largeſt in Spain, and, though an inland city, carries on a great trade in ſilk.

2. Malaga is a fine populous city, and an eminent ſea-port, ſuitable to its extenſive commerce. Its principal merchandize for exportation conſiſts in Sack and other wines, wool, olives, oil, and raiſins.

3. Almeria is a maritime city, and its neighbourhood is fertile in fruits and oils.

Murcia was once a ſmall Mooriſh kingdom. It is mountainous, yet fertile, like Granada, in ſugar, honey, ſilk, rice, ſalt, and fine fruits.

1. Carthagena has one of the beſt harbours of Spain, but is nevertheleſs much declined from its priſtine grandeur: yet here are many mines of alum, and alſo ſome diamonds, rubies, and other gems.

2. Murcia, the capital of this province, is a large, well-built, and populous inland city.

Valencia was once alſo a Mooriſh kingdom, along the ſhore of the Mediterranean Sea. It abounds in ſalt, rice, flax, ſilk, hemp, honey, and ſugar.

1. Valencia, its capital, is a pleaſant, large, beautiful, and populous maritime city, which carries on a conſiderable commerce, more eſpecially in almonds, for which fruit there is always a great demand every where.

2. Alicant, a ſea-port, famous for its red and white wines, of which very much is exported to many foreign parts; as there alſo is of its raiſins and other dried fruits, aniſeed, &c.

3. 4. 5. Altea, Denia, Gandia, are ſmall ſea-port towns, trading in wines, ſilk, flax, honey, and raiſins.

The kingdom of Caſtile, though an inland country, is the principal and moſt opulent province of Spain. It is uſually diſtinguiſhed into Old and New Caſtile.

Old Caſtile is ſo termed for having been recovered from the Moors prior to New Caſtile, north of the other. Its wine is eſteemed excellent, and its numerous flocks of ſheep produce the fineſt wool in Spain; moſtly carried to Bilboa, for exportation to foreign parts. Its beſt towns are,

1. Valladolid, a large, beautiful, and populous city, being one of the ſtatelieſt in Spain; having fine ſtreets, ſplendid palaces, ſpacious ſquares, piazzas, fountains, and ſtately churches, a royal palace, an univerſity, and about ſeventy convents.

2. Burgos, its capital city, is large, though irregular, and has many fine ſquares, palaces, churches, convents, and hoſpitals.

3. Segovia, a fine, large, and populous city; having the beſt woollen cloth manufacture in all Spain, as well as the fineſt wool in its neighbourhood; of which much is exported. It has alſo a paper manufacture.

4. Avila, a moderately large city, producing excellent grapes and other fruits, and alſo ſome manufactures.

New Caſtile has ſometimes been called the kingdom of Toledo, lying ſouth of Old Caſtile, and is the center of the monarchy of Spain. It is a very fruitful and healthy country.

1. Madrid, its capital and that of all Spain, and though an open place, and of little account till King Philip the Second, made it his conſtant reſidence; yet it is become very large, and is adorned with fine ſquares, ſtreets, palaces, churches, convents, and hoſpitals: but it is, nevertheleſs, by no means a neat and cleanly place. It ſtands on the little river Manſanares. The inhabitants are computed to amount to one hundred and fifty thouſand. Proviſions of all kinds are here both reaſonable and excellent; and the conſtant reſidence of the court occaſions a briſk trade and circulation of money.

2. Toledo, an ancient, populous, and fortified city, on the river Tagus, has ſtately public and private edifices, many fine churches, ſeventeen ſquares, and thirty-eight convents, &c. Toledo has been long famous for its fine ſword-blades, and alſo carries on a great trade in wool, ſilk, and ſtuffs.

3. Guadalaxara is no very great place, but the adjacent country is fertile; which conſideration probably induced the Duke de Riperda to ſet up ſeveral manufactures of woollen cloths and ſtuffs, which then ſeemed promiſing; yet on his diſgrace, in the year 1726, they fell to decay. The kingdom of Spain has for many years been governed by foreign intereſts, to the infinite detriment of the true intereſt of the public.

Spaniſh or Upper Navarre is divided from French Navarre by the Pyrenean Mountains, amongſt which mountains the greateſt part of it is ſituated, and therefore its principal wealth conſiſts in grazing.

 1. Pam-

1. Pampelona, its capital, is a place of little commerce; is of a tolerable magnitude, has an university, and ſeveral eccleſiaſtical edifices. It is ſeated in a plain, near the Pyrenean mountains.

2. Tafalla, a city and univerſity; has good wine in its neighbourhood.

3. 4. 5. Olita, formerly the reſidence of the Kings of Navarre, is a pretty town in a fruitful country; and Tudela and Eſtella are likewiſe pretty towns.

Arragon, formerly a kingdom, likewiſe joins the Pyrenean mountains. Much of it is dry and barren, and ſome parts uninhabited, yet, where watered by rivers and ſprings, it produces corn, wine, oil, flax, fruits, and ſaffron.

1. Saragoſſa, its capital, ſtands in a fertile plain, on the river Ebro. It is a large and handſome city, containing ſeventeen large churches, fourteen convents, an univerſity, and a citadel. It enjoys a very conſiderable trade, and is inhabited by many perſons of quality.

2. Calatayud is a good town at the end of a charming valley, abounding in grain, wine, oil, and other fruits. The other towns are inconſiderable.

The fine principality of Catalonia is ſeparated from France by the Pyrenean mountains; and, though mountainous, has many delicious plains, ſupplying plenty of wine, grain, oil, fruits, flax, hemp, marble, cryſtal, alabaſter, jaſper, amethyſts: alſo gold, ſilver, tin, lead, iron, alum, vitriol, and ſalt. Yet it has very little copper, neither has it any ſugar-canes, though other provinces of Spain produce them. It is one of the moſt populous provinces of the kingdom.

1. Barcelona, its capital, is a large, ſtrong, and noble ſea-port, adorned with an univerſity, and many fine churches, convents, and ſquares; has a conſiderable commerce in wines, fruits, &c. and is thought to contain about one hundred thouſand people.

2. Tortoſa is a large fortified city and an univerſity, on the Ebro, with many churches and convents, and its neighbourhood abounds in grain, ſilk, and fruits.

3. Tarragona has an univerſity, and a good trade, though but an indifferent harbour. Its neighbourhood yields corn, oil, flax, and very good wine.

4. Girona, a fortified inland city, has a conſiderable inland commerce.

The Balearic and Pityuſæ iſles, in the Mediterranean Sea, viz. the four iſles of Majorca, Minorca, Iviça, and Formentera, formerly compoſed the kingdom of Majorca. This laſt-named iſland abounds in corn, wine, oil, ſaffron, wool, honey, horſes, &c.

Majorca, its capital, is large, has ſtately buildings, twenty-two churches, and about ten thouſand inhabitants.

Minorca Iſle has a barren ſoil, though ſome good wine, of which, when it had the Engliſh for their cuſtomers, Dr. Buſching thinks, they made annually twenty-ſeven thouſand pounds ſterling. Here is alſo ſome wool, cotton, ſalt, capers: but its people, who are in number about twenty-ſeven thouſand, (having in all three thouſand and eighty-eight houſes) are not induſtrious, and therefore are ſupplied with their principal neceſſaries from foreign parts, viz. corn, beef, brandy, linen, ſtuffs, &c. to the value, he thinks, of about ſeventy thouſand pounds ſterling annually.

1. Cittadella, its capital, has about ſix hundred houſes: and,

2. The little trading town of Mahon is defended by the ſtrong fort of St. Philip.

The Pityuſæ Iſles, ſo called by the Greeks, from their multitude of pine-trees, are,

1. Iviça, which is but little cultivated, becauſe moſt of its people are employed in the ſalt trade, as more gainful. Iviça, its capital, however, has a modern fortification.

2. Formentera Iſle was formerly well inhabited, but is now quite deſerted, becauſe of the Barbary corſairs continually ſwarming about it.

 ITALY.

I T A L Y.

In Italy, ſays Dr. Buſching, all materials for enjoyment, and a variety of delicacies, which lie ſcattered here and there in other countries, we here meet with in the utmoſt profuſion.—Corn, rich wines, the choiceſt fruits, ſuch as oranges, citrons, lemons, olives, pomegranates, almonds, raiſins, white mulberry trees, beyond number, for producing of ſilk; ſugar, alabaſter, jaſper, iron, gold, ſilver, ſulphur, alum; with tame and wild beaſts. On this account Italy is juſtly ſtiled, The Parent of Plenty,—The Source of earthly Felicity,—The Pride of our Globe,—The Garden of Europe,—The Beauty of the World,—and even a Microcoſm within itſelf. Yet all its delicacies are not originally natives. The fruit-trees, the produce whereof the Latins called *Mala*, were tranſplanted to Italy after the conqueſts of the Romans in Africa, Greece, Aſia Minor, and Syria.—Apricots, or abricots, came from Epirus, and were called *Mala Epirotica*.—Peaches, *Mala Perſica*, from Perſia.—Citrons were called *Mala Medica*, from Media.—Pomegranates, *Mala Punica*, from Carthage.—And cheſnuts, from the town of Caſtania, in the diſtrict of Magneſia, in Macedonia.—The beſt pears came from Alexandria, Numidia, Greece, and Numantia.—The firſt plumbs were brought from Armenia and Syria, eſpecially from Damaſcus, from whence the name of Damaſcens, retained by us even at this day.—Lucius Lucullus was the firſt that introduced cherry-trees from Pontus, which ſoon after became the growth of all other countries throughout Europe. Yet in Italy there is no ſmall difference in regard to the fertility, wholeſomeneſs, and pleaſantneſs of its different provinces; in ſome of which the number of the inhabitants is far from being ſufficient for the culture and improvement of the fruitful ſoil, more eſpecially in the Papal territories, &c. where there is not a town of any conſequence wherein the eccleſiaſtics make not one half, or at leaſt one third of the inhabitants.

Savoy, Piedmont, and Sardinia.

To begin with that part of Italy which borders on France, or the King of Sardinia's ſubjects of Piedmont, Savoy, &c. on the continent, Mr. Keyſler thinks they exceed two millions of people.

The dutchy of Savoy is ſo barren, rocky and mountainous, that there are very few materials in it for commerce, ſome wine excepted. Chambery, its capital, is of a moderate ſize, where many of the Savoyard nobility reſide. The other towns are more inſignificant, and have no trade.

Piedmont is a fine country, abounding in corn, a variety of wines, fruits, hemp, cattle, in which laſt they have a very profitable trade: but the moſt advantageous production of this country is ſilk, which is reckoned the very beſt in all Italy.

1. Turin, its capital, is a moſt beautiful and regular city, and contains many fine palaces, piazzas, ſtreets, churches, convents, and an univerſity; and its inhabitants may amount to between fifty and ſixty thouſand. It ſtands on the fine river Po, in a moſt pleaſant country.
2. Nice is a ſea-port of ſome commerce, but its harbour does not admit of large ſhipping.
3. Oneglia is a fortified ſea-port, having a very good oil trade.
4. Villa Franca is an inconſiderable ſea-port town.
5. Aſti is a large fortified town, in a fertile valley.

Montferrat dutchy belongs to the King of Sardinia, and joins to Piedmont; it abounds in corn, in excellent Muſcadine wine, and contains about two hundred towns and caſtles.

Caſal, its capital, lies on the Po, in a fertile country, and is very ſtrong.

N. B. About, and ſince the year 1703, ſeveral diſtricts, towns, and caſtles have, by particular conventions, been yielded by the Houſe of Auſtria to that of Savoy, which formerly belonged to the dutchy of Milan.

The island and kingdom of Sardinia is not very profitable, in point of revenue, to the House of Savoy; as, according to Dr. Busching, after defraying the expence of its civil and military establishment, the remainder does not much exceed one hundred thousand livres. It yields plenty of corn and wine; but, by reason of its many morasses, and the mountains on the north side of it, the air is esteemed unwholesome.

Cagliari, its capital, has an university and an archbishopric, and is the residence of the viceroy.—It is a sea-port, though not considerable for commerce. On the coast of this island, at several small sea-ports, there is a great coral fishery.

Austrian Lombardy, Milan, Mantua, &c. &c.

The Austrian dominions in Lombardy consist only at present of such part of the dutchy of Milan as has not been, at different times, yielded to the House of Savoy, and also of the entire dutchy of Mantua.

The dutchy of Milan is most fertile in a variety of excellent productions. Corn, rice, excellent wines, and the finest of cheese, improperly called Parmesan, which is used all over Italy. Its pastures are exceeding rich, famous for breeding of cattle, and producing much milk. The trade of the Milanese, and particularly of the vast city of Milan, is very considerable. A great quantity of cloth, silk, and linen are here manufactured, and mostly used at home; but their fine silk-stockings, gloves, and handkerchiefs are usually exported. Milan is famous for curious works in steel, crystal, agate, hyacinths, and other gems; and the country every where abounds with ingenious artificers.—It is so extremely rich and fertile, as to have formerly yielded to the King of Spain a revenue of two millions of dollars. Mr. Nugent, in his Grand Tour, states its modern revenue to be about three hundred thousand pounds sterling.

The city of Milan is ten Italian miles in circumference, containing, according to Dr. Busching, two hundred and fifty thousand inhabitants; yet Mr. Keysler, an author likewise of good credit, computes them to be about three hundred thousand. It contains two hundred and thirty churches, beside its grand cathedral, ninety convents, one hundred chapels for religious fraternities, and one hundred and twenty schools.

Pavia, (once the residence of the Kings of the Lombards, though since much decayed) Como, Lodi, and Cremona, more especially the last, which is five miles in circuit, are very considerable cities; full of churches and convents, having fine buildings, and spacious streets and squares, though neither rich nor populous.

Mantua, the capital city of the dutchy of that name, is a fine and very strong place; crouded with churches, convents, and hospitals. It abounds in corn, flax, cattle, and fruits, with some wine:—But although it was said to contain formerly fifty thousand inhabitants, yet, since it has no longer any court, Dr. Busching thinks they have dwindled to about sixteen thousand; of which number are about five thousand Jews. Its general commerce in silk and other manufactures, formerly so considerable, is now much decreased, and its ducal palaces are going to ruin. There are no other considerable towns in this dutchy.

The dominions of the Infant of Spain are, the dutchies of Parma and Placentia, lying east and south of the Milanese. They have a most fertile soil in olives, truffles, chesnuts, and other fine fruits, rich pastures, and excellent cattle; though the celebrated Parmesan cheese is no longer made here, but in the dutchy of Milan, and about Bologna, and other parts: yet here are very beneficial salt-works, as well as copper and iron mines.

1. Parma is a large and populous city. In it silk is a great material for commerce, of which much is exported, especially in silk stockings.

2. Placentia, or Placenza, is likewise a large city, crouded with churches and convents.

3. Guastalla is a small fortified town; though neither it, nor any other place in the little dutchy of that name, are any way eminent for commerce.

In the states of the Duke of Modena are plenty of fine corn, with excellent wine and fruits.

Modena is a moderately large and populous city; and Reggio and Mirandola are small but handsome and strong towns, of which we can say nothing more particular.

There are in upper Italy several small sovereign principalities, as Massa, Monaco, and Masserano; but they are very inconsiderable: and although they abound in oranges, Lemons, and other fine fruits, they are no way remarkable for commerce.

In Italy are three independent republics, viz.

GENOA.

The republic of Genoa is about one hundred and fifty English miles in length, along the coast of the Mediterranean Sea, but of a small breadth; and, being in many parts rocky, it is supplied with corn from other countries: yet it produces oils, good wines, and excellent fruits; such as lemons, oranges, pomegranates, olives, figs, almonds; also large plantations of mulberry-trees, for silk-worms. It also exports salt, marble, Parmesan cheese, and anchovies. The Genoese manufactures have lost much of their ancient reputation; yet they still produce fine velvets, plush, fustian, damasks, and other silk fabrics, being supplied with much raw-silk from Sicily; gold and silver tissues, laces, gloves, though much inferior to those of the Netherlands and France; it has also the finest paper.

1. Genoa, its capital city, is a most magnificent place; in circuit about ten Italian miles, including its fortifications. It contains thirty-seven parish churches, twenty collegiate churches, seventeen convents, and two large hospitals. Two of its principal streets consist entirely of fine marble palaces. Its inhabitants may amount to one hundred and fifty thousand, whose principal manufactures are those above-mentioned, and they also trade much in drugs, &c. from the Levant; with which great commercial materials a very brisk trade is carried on, more especially with Spain. Hither the shipping of most European nations constantly resort, in great numbers, particularly those of England, Holland, and France. Yet it is well known, that Genoa is greatly fallen from the formidable figure its naval power anciently made, it being now reduced so low as six gallies, the complement of the largest of which, according to the judicious Mr. Keysler, is but one hundred soldiers, and three hundred and twenty rowers, the use of which, at this time, is principally to fetch corn from Naples and Sicily, and to give their ladies an airing. This decayed city, however, is eminent for having some of the richest bankers in all Europe, and for its profitable dealings in exchange.

2. Savona is, next to Genoa, the best place of this republic on the continent: it is considerably large, and its harbour is well defended; yet, in the year 1745, sixteen French and Spanish vessels, laden with military stores, were there sunk by the English bombs.

3. Finale, a strong and considerable sea-port, with a convenient harbour. And along the coast the republic has sundry other small towns and sea-ports, some of which have good harbours, though very little commerce.

The island of Corsica, in the Mediterranean Sea, (opposite to Genoa, to which it belonged before it was ceded by that republic to France, in 1769) is about one hundred English miles in length, and about forty in breadth. It is very mountainous, but its plains and valleys produce corn, in sufficient

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ferent wine, fruits, much olive-oil, alum, iron, salt-works, and a coral fishery. The unhealthiness of its air occasions its not being very populous: for, by the once famous Baron Theodore's calculation, in the year 1736, its whole people amounted only to one hundred and twenty thousand. It was anciently a small kingdom, and had long been possessed by the republic of Genoa: but that state's heavy taxes, and the other grievances complained of by the Corsicans, kept the majority of them, for a long time, in a state of rebellion; till at length tranquillity was secured by the cession of the island to France, as has been already mentioned. Its principal town and sea-port is Bastia.

VENICE.

The famous republic of Venice is composed of several fine provinces on the continent of Italy, and of some isles in the Adriatic Sea; but its principal strength and glory is its maiden capital city of Venice, seated on seventy-two or more isles, at the bottom of the north end of the Adriatic Sea; it is divided from the continent by a laguna, or marshy lake, of five Italian miles in breadth, too shallow for large ships to navigate; yet, by the prudent attention of the republic, it is prevented from becoming part of the continent, as well as from being ever frozen, so as to bear an army on it in winter. Toward the sea, the access to this wonderful city is likewise difficult, but the safe and navigable parts are indicated by piles; which, at the approach of an enemy's fleet can be cut away. And, as her ships of war and galleys may be fitted out very expeditiously from her noble dock yard, containing always vast quantities of naval stores, it is evident that the city, being thus secure from any attempt, either by land or water, is sufficiently strong, though without walls or other fortifications.

Over its several canals are laid four hundred and fifty (or, as some say, upwards of five hundred) bridges, greater and smaller, the majority of them being of stone. The city contains seventy parish churches, eighty convents, seventeen hospitals, fifty-three squares, one hundred and sixty five marble and twenty-three brazen statues. Its buildings are all stone, though the greater part of them make but a mean figure. Yet St. Mark's square, and several stately marble palaces bordering on the great canal running through the whole city are very fine, though most of them of gothic architecture. Its inhabitants have, by some, been computed to amount to two hundred thousand, though others think not so many. Its trade in cloth is still considerable, more especially of scarlet: silk manufactures, gold and silver stuffs, are here manufactured, and though not so beautiful as those of France, they have a very good market in the Levant. Its brocatellas, a kind of stuff like brocade, made of coarse silk, are much used for carpets. Its manufacture of looking glasses, and other fine plate glass, is still considerable.

Of the famous bank of Venice, which was the first of any erected in Europe, we have sufficiently treated in the body of our work. Its so much celebrated arsenal, docks, &c. being two and a half Italian miles in circuit, containing a great variety of edifices, for every thing requisite for a land or sea armament, where also lie the ships of war, galleys, &c. and the Bucentauro, is now far excelled by those of England, Holland, and France.

There are several isles near the city, which are fortified for its defence, viz. Murano, Lido, Malmocco, Palestrina, Chiozza, &c. upon which some good towns are built. On the Venetian continent, one of the finest countries upon earth, are many good cities, as

1. Padua, an ancient and large city and university, containing above forty thousand inhabitants, twenty-six parish churches, forty-one convents, four good hospitals, and many fine palaces,

palaces. Here is a woollen manufacture, and its neighbourhood yields excellent wines, oil, and fruits.

2. Rovigo, a large but declining city.

3 Verona, a very large city, through which the river Adige runs, over which are four ſtone bridges: it is ſtill computed to contain near fifty thouſand inhabitants, though formerly it was much larger. Dr. Buſching thinks the trade of this city is not ſo well improved as it might be for the ſupplying of other countries with olives, oil, wines, very good linen, ſewing ſilk, and woollen ſtuffs.

4. Vicenza, a city about four Italian miles in circuit, containing many fine palaces, fourteen parochial churches, and twenty-nine convents; though nothing particular is related of its commerce.

5. Breſchia has nineteen pariſh churches, forty-five convents, and near fifty thouſand inhabitants. Its commerce is very conſiderable, both for its fire-arms, ſwords, and cutlery-ware, having many iron mines in its neighbourhood Its linen manufactures are alſo in great eſteem.

6. Bergamo is a ſtrong, large, and populous city, famous for its ſewing ſilk, iron mines near it, ſome woollen manufactures, rich wines, good oil, and delicious fruits.

7. Crema, a ſtrong city, in a very fertile valley, having many churches, convents, hoſpitals, and other elegant buildings. It is eminent for its fine thread and linen manufactures, and for its annual fairs.

Here alſo, on this Venetian territory, are ſeveral ſmaller towns, which have ſome inconſiderable commerce.

Along the coaſt of Dalmatia, the Venetians have a narrow ſlip of territory, with ſeveral forts, but they are of no great conſequence in commerce, being purely intended as a barrier on the ſide of Turkey, viz. Zara, Nadin, Novigrad, Sebenico, Gliſſa, Spalatro, Cattaro, which places, however, abound in wines, oils, ſalt, &c.

Caſtel Nuova alſo belongs to Venice, and is a place of ſome commerce.

On the ſame coaſt is the little ariſtocratical republic of Raguſa, tributary to the Grand Seignior, to whom it pays twenty thouſand ſequins annually, of nine ſhillings and two-pence ſterling each. It is a Popiſh ſtate, and its citizens are ſaid to be almoſt all to a man traders, and have fine manufactures: it has ſome few neighbouring towns ſubject to it.

Lower down, in what was anciently called the Ionian Sea. the republic of Venice has ſeveral iſlands, near the coaſts of ancient Greece, which are of conſequence in a commercial ſenſe. As,

1. Zante produces a ſtrong wine, oil, figs, raiſins, currants, and ſalt. Here is a Greek Biſhop, the bulk of its people being of the Greek church. The town of Zante is large and populous, and has a Latin Biſhop, and three convents.

2. Cefalonia is a moſt fruitful iſle, moſt of its fruit trees bearing twice in the year: it produces wine, oils, citrons, oranges, pomegranates and corn; more eſpecially is this iſle famous for currants, dried in the ſun, of which England takes off great quantities annually.

3. Corfu was anciently named Corcyra. Its northern coaſt is fertile in excellent wines, delicious fruits, olives, and grain. It is of great conſequence to the Venetian State, in regard to the Turks, that occaſions their conſtantly keeping an armament in the harbour of the city of Corfu, its capital; which is well fortified, and ſtood out ſucceſsfully a ſevere ſiege by the Turks, in the year 1715. At this city is an archbiſhopric, and an academy of the liberal arts and ſciences.

4. Santa Maura is an iſland extremely fertile in grain, wine, oil, and all the richeſts fruits before-named. Its chief and ſtrong town, of the ſame name, contains five or ſix thouſand inhabitants. There are ſeveral other ſmaller and inconſiderable iſles; but of very little importance.

LUCCA.

LUCCA.

The ſmall free republic of Lucca lies on the Tuſcan Sea: it is in compaſs about thirty Italian miles, and contains about one hundred and twenty thouſand people in the city and its one hundred and fifty ſmall towns and villages. Its induſtry is extremely great, in improving every ſpot of its territory to the utmoſt advantage. It abounds in wines, oils, fruits, &c. And, according to Mr. Keyſler, its entire annual revenue may amount to eighty thouſand pounds ſterling. Her military force conſiſts of ſeventy-ſix Switzers for the guard of the palace, and of five hundred other ſoldiers.

The city of Lucca, the ſeat of its government, lies in a delightful plain, charmingly diverſified with villages, ſeats, ſummer houſes, vineyards, meadows, and corn fields. It contains above forty thouſand inhabitants, whereof a great part are artiſans and manufacturers, more eſpecially in ſilk goods, in which Lucca carries on a very conſiderable trade. And their olives and oil are deemed the beſt in Italy.

TUSCANY.

The grand dutchy of Tuſcany adjoins to the Pope's territories, and is about one hundred and ſixteen Engliſh miles in length, and eighty in breadth. It is a moſt delightful country, abounding in grain, oil, wines, oranges, lemons, and all other kinds of rich fruits. It has ſalt pits, alabaſter, lapis lazuli, borax, amethyſts, jaſper, marble, cornelians, quickſilver, &c.

1. Florence, its capital, is a large, moſt beautiful, and ſtill flouriſhing city, moſt delightfully ſituated between mountains covered with olive trees, vineyards, farms, ſeats, and villages, divided into two nearly equal parts by the Arno; which, with the four ſtone and marble bridges over it, enhances the beautiful appearance of the city, which contains about nine thouſand houſes, many of which are beautiful ſtone edifices. It has ſeventeen market places, ſeven fountains, ſix columns, two pyramids, one hundred and ſixty public ſtatues, forty-four pariſh churches, twelve priories, fifty-four convents, twenty-four eccleſiaſtical fraternities, thirty-ſeven hoſpitals, and its inhabitants are computed to be at leaſt ſeventy thouſand; but others make them many more. To deſcribe, at large, the beauties of its churches, and more eſpecially of the Grand Duke's palace, both without and within, is not our immediate province. It was formerly a larger and more opulent city than at preſent; its now greateſt trade conſiſting chiefly in woollen and ſilk manufactures.

2. Piſa, on the Arno, is a decayed city, now only conſiſting of about ſeventeen thouſand inhabitants; although ſo far back as the eleventh century, it was computed to contain one hundred and fifty thouſand. Some buſineſs is ſtill carried on in it, on account of its being the place where the gallies are built. Its exchange is a fine edifice, but there is little buſineſs done there. Between Piſa and Leghorn is a canal of ſixteen Italian miles in length, for the convenience of traffic as well as for draining the moraſſes.

3. Leghorn is a handſome city, built in the modern taſte, and on account of its being interſected with canals, is termed the New Venice. Its inhabitants are computed to be forty thouſand; of which it is ſaid half the number are Jews: the greateſt part of its commerce going through their hands. The trade of this famous port is extremely conſiderable; and is greatly promoted by the freedom of its port, its ſovereigns having fully experienced the ſubſtantial benefits thereof. Proteſtants, it is true, are not here allowed the public exerciſe of their religion: yet all ſects are connived at; and the Engliſh being, of all foreign nations, the beſt cuſtomers to Leghorn, are allowed

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to have a chaplain to their factory there; which, in Mr. Keysler's time, in the year 1730, consisted of thirty-six families. The Protestants of other nations resort to chaplains of ships.

4. Sienna is a moderately large city, with an university: it stands in a healthful air; yet, though its houses are elegantly built, it is but thin of inhabitants, who scarcely amount to seventeen thousand, with little trade. It was once a free republic, and a place of considerable commerce, till vanquished by the Spaniards, in the year 1554, and by them sold to the Duke of Florence.

Papal Territory.

The state of the church, or Papal territory, in general, consists of a very fertile soil. Its harbours, both on the Adriatic and Tuscan Seas, are very advantageously situated for commerce. The Pope receives considerable emoluments from foreign parts; though these are curtailing every day,—his dominions are visited by numbers of foreigners, who expend much money there;—and, on account of the supposed sacredness of his person and character, his government should seem most eligible, and best calculated for the welfare of his subjects: upon the consideration of these, and various other points, (says Dr. Busching as many others have said before him) one would be apt to imagine, that, of all countries, this ought to be the most flourishing and fortunate, were not (even but on a cursory inspection) the very reverse most manifest. The country is but ill cultivated, very poor, and thin of inhabitants, the city of Bologna alone excepted.—Trade and manufactures totally stagnate: and, were it not for the bounty of Providence, which supplies the inhabitants with dates, almonds, figs, olives, and other fruits, and the fruits growing spontaneously, and without the culture of the inhabitants, who have both bread and wine with but little labour, their sloth would absolutely starve them.

Their small inclination and spirit for labour is not to be wondered at, as they know, that if they have much, much will be taken from them; and that, in the end, nothing will be left them. The many holidays, which are so great an impediment to trade and business;—the great number of young sturdy beggars strolling about, and burdening the inhabitants, under the appearance of pilgrims;—the many hospitals, which confirm the people in idleness;—the multitudes of convents, like so many nests of drones that obstruct the increase of inhabitants;—the inconceivable wealth of churches and convents, which lies dormant without the least advantage to the public;—the inquisition, which will not permit the want of inhabitants to be supplied by those of another religion; are some of the great causes of the wretched condition of the Papal dominions; although there be others attended with still worse consequences.

No government equals the Papal in rigour; the temporal sword being not only used, but also, on several occasions, the spiritual one, or the formidable inquisition.—Nothing is so monstrous as the passion by which most Popes, Cardinals, and Prelates, have been carried away for the enriching and promoting of their nephews and other relations! And nothing is so vain as the ambition of gaining for themselves a great name, by founding of convents and churches. The regular clergy vie with each other, in the number, splendor, and riches of their convents and churches; but it is from the bowels of the poor inhabitants that the money is generally extracted for the support of this rivalship. The legates, governors, and other inferior officers in the provinces, knowing that the duration of their offices are but short and uncertain, scruple at no kind of rapaciousness. From all which causes, it can no longer be a subject of surprize, if, throughout the whole world, there is not a more wretched people than the Pope's temporal subjects.

 The

The extent of the Pope's temporal dominions, from ſouth to north, is about two hundred and forty Engliſh miles, and the breadth, in ſome parts, is one hundred and twenty, and in others ſcarce twenty of thoſe miles. The certain annual income of the Pope is generally computed at eight millions ſeven hundred thouſand ſcudi. Yet, ſays Dr. Buſching, it is no ſecret, that, in the year 1741, the Pope was indebted no leſs than fifty-ſix millions of ſcudi.

In the Papal territories are ſeveral legations or governments, viz.

I. Bolonia, or Bologna, is ſaid to contain three hundred and eight towns and villages.

Bologna, its capital, is, next to Rome, the fineſt, beſt, and richeſt city in all the eccleſiaſtical ſtate; having many fine palaces, churches, and convents, and is ſo populous, that its inhabitants amount to upwards of eighty thouſand. This city's having long ſince voluntarily ſubmitted to the See of Rome, has hitherto procured her the great benefit of having no citadel in it;—alſo, that the effects of its citizens ſhall, on no pretext, be liable to confiſcation;—and that, in commemoration of their former condition of having been a free republic, their coin is ſtill ſtamped with the word *libertas*, and they ſtill enjoy ſome other peculiar privileges. There is a vaſt quantity of ſilk twiſted in the mills on the river Reno, which runs through the city. Its manufactures of damaſks, ſattins, velvets, taffaties, and crapes, are in great repute. It alſo carries on a conſiderable trade in flax, hemp, oil, wine, walnut-tree work, marmalade, eſſences of all kinds, brandy, ſoap, ſnuff, rock-chryſtal, toys, artificial flowers, and fruits. In one word, Bologna, in a commercial ſenſe, is the glory and pride of the Papal territory. It has, likewiſe, a famous univerſity.

II. In the dutchy of Ferrara, the river Po diſcharges itſelf, by ſeveral mouths, into the Adriatic.

Ferrara, its capital, is a large, but poor and deſolate city on the Po, ſaid to have more houſes than inhabitants, for want of trade and manufactures, ever ſince it fell under the dominion of the Papacy. Yet it has many handſome churches, convents, houſes, and palaces, and its ſtreets are broad and clean. It is an archbiſhopric and an univerſity, and was a noble and populous city under its own dukes. Here are ſeveral ſmall market towns in this dutchy.

III. Romagna, in which is the once famous city of

Ravenna, an archbiſhopric, and, though now mean and inconſiderable, ſcarcely containing fifteen thouſand inhabitants, was anciently a famous port on the Adriatic Sea, but, though ſtanding on the very ſame ſpot, is now near three Italian miles from the ſea, occaſioned by vaſt quantities of mud, thrown up by the tide, and, in proceſs of time, forming what was once its celebrated harbour into a tract of cultivated land. Yet, poor as it now is, it has no fewer than twenty-four convents, beſide many churches, &c. Its houſes are old and ruinous, and ſtreets naſty.

Imola, Faenza, and Ceſena are ſmaller places, with many eccleſiaſtical edifices, but no trade; and the like may be ſaid of the reſt of the places of the legateſhip. At Rimini, its harbour is choaked up with mud in like ſort as that of Ravenna.

IV. The dutchy of Urbino contains,

Urbino, its capital, which, though not very large, is the reſidence of the Pope's legate, and of an archbiſhopric, and contains many churches and convents: and here is ſtill to be ſeen the fine palace of its former Dukes.

Peſaro is a handſome ſea port, pretty well inhabited, and has many fine churches, convents, and palaces; it is noted for the beſt figs in all Italy, and for very good wine: and Fano is a ſea port for ſmall veſſels, which is all that can be ſaid of any place in this dutchy.

V. Ancona is a ſea port on the Adriatic; and, though neither ſmall nor unhandſome, yet has much leſs commerce, and is leſs populous and wealthy than, from its happy ſituation and its good harbour, might reaſonably be expected, were it in any other Potentate's poſſeſſion. Its commerce, however, begins to revive, ſince the Pope has made it a free port. It has an elegant exchange for

merchants: it is ſaid to produce, in its neighbourhood, the beſt and fineſt flax of any part of Europe. Its commerce, for the greater part, is managed by about five thouſand Jews, who have a ſynagogue here. And perſons of all religions enjoy here all freedom, excepting the public exerciſe of their worſhip. It has forty-five churches, convents, and hoſpitals; and, although its trade be not very conſiderable, it has more the appearance of a commercial city than any other ſea port in the dominions of the papacy.

Fabriano, though called only a village, is equal to many cities; as it has two collegiate churches, ſeventeen convents, ſixteen churches of religious fraternities, two alms-houſes, and three hoſpitals; and is famous for a paper manufacture. To what purpoſe would it be for us to give an account of ſo great a number of other ſmall cities and towns within the Pope's territories, as there is nothing of trade or manufactures to be found in them, nor any thing elſe worthy of mention, but their being crouded with churches, chapels, and monaſteries, where the clergy live in the greateſt plenty, and the miſerable laity in poverty and ſloth, although the vicinity of ſuch places do moſtly abound with excellent wines, fruits, corn, &c. chiefly for the uſe of the clergy. Out of many inſtances of this ſort, which might be produced, Viterbo is one, which ſcarcely contains fifteen thouſand inhabitants, and yet has no fewer than ſixty-nine churches, convents, and hoſpitals.

Civita Vecchia, however, may be mentioned, as being properly the ſea-port of Rome, near the mouth of the Tiber, and the ſtation for the Pope's gallies, being ſtrongly fortified: yet, having little or no commerce, it is but thinly inhabited: and has a bad air, and a want of good water.

The Campania, or territory of the city of Rome, is bleſſed with a moſt fertile ſoil; but for want of due cultivation, the lay-inhabitants are wretchedly poor.

Rome, its matchleſs capital, may even now be ſaid to be the moſt marvellous city on earth, in reſpect of antiquities, curioſities, pompous ornaments, ſuperb palaces, magnificent churches, and many grand monaſteries: it is alſo the grand reſort of profeſſors in all the fine arts, being the centre and ſtaple of all that is elegant in ſculpture, painting, architecture, &c. Such grand embelliſhments may be truly ſaid to make modern Rome ſurpaſs even ancient Rome in all its glory, although the latter was vaſtly more populous, and alſo ſtood on a much greater compaſs of ground than the former. Dr. Buſching acquaints us, that, in the year 1714, a liſt was taken of all the inhabitants of Rome, whoſe number was found to be one hundred and forty-three thouſand; yet Mr. Keyſler, in the year 1731, computes them to amount to one hundred and ſixty-three thouſand one hundred and fifty-ſix. It is reckoned ten Italian miles in circumference, yet ſcarce half that ſpace is built. Beſide its wonderfully grand Papal bazilic of St. Peter, which is ſuperior to any thing of the kind in the world, and many collegiate churches, it contains eighty pariſh churches, beſide many chapels, and above thirty alms-houſes: moſt of its houſes are of brick; but thoſe of the better ſort have the doors, windows, and ſupporters of free-ſtone. Upwards of two-thirds of its houſes are the property of churches, convents, and alms-houſes; to which new purchaſes are continually making. Its ſtreets are well paved, but neither carefully kept clean, nor illuminated. But it is not our intention ſo much as to attempt a deſcription of the beauties of this city, which would require an entire treatiſe, nor of its defects. It may however be proper here to remark, that the real ſubſtantial burghers or citizens of Rome are but few in number; and that, conſidering the magnitude of this city, there is but little trade carried on in it. Nevertheleſs, the ſupplying it with neceſſaries, as well for its conſtant inhabitants, as for the vaſt numbers of perſons of rank and fortune continually reſorting to it, and their expence for many various curioſities, cannot fail to occaſion the circulation of much money at Rome.

In this Campania are many ſmall towns, but without the appearance of either commerce or manufactures of almoſt any kind whatever, or of any thing elſe but eccleſiaſtical edifices.

The DOMINIONS *of the* KING *of the* TWO SICILIES.

One of the two Sicilies is beſt known by the name of the kingdom of Naples, and is in length about two hundred and eighty Engliſh miles, and breadth ninety-ſix to one hundred and twenty Engliſh miles. It is a very hot country, with a ſoil extremely fertile in grain, oil, delicious wines and fruits, flax, ſaffron, alum, vitriol, ſulphur, rock chryſtal, glaſs manufactures, variety of minerals, fine wool, a great quantity of ſilk, of which much is exported. The laity here are poor, but the clergy rich, poſſeſſing near two-thirds of the lands of the kingdom, its number of churches and convents being indeed aſtoniſhing.

1. Naples, its ſuperb capital, contains fine and lofty houſes, palaces, churches, convents, &c. and, according to Mr. Keyſler, Dr. Buſching, and others, contains at leaſt three hundred thouſand inhabitants, conſiſting of great numbers of Princes, Dukes, Marquiſes, and other nobility, with their retinues, and a moſt numerous clergy with their dependents, &c. It contains, beſide four capital churches, one hundred and two pariſh churches and chapels, one hundred and thirty chapels of religious fraternities, one hundred and forty-nine convents of both ſexes, thirty-four alms-houſes, eleven hoſpitals, five ſeminaries for eccleſiaſtics, many fine palaces, fountains, ſtatues, &c. and the royal palace, as well as that of the archbiſhop, is ſurprizingly fine. Its harbour is ſpacious, and is much frequented by ſhips of many nations. Naples has good ſilk manufactures, of which they export not a little, and a conſiderable general commerce, for the advancement whereof the Jews were re-admitted in the year 1740: they alſo export oils, ſulphur, manna, roſemary, aniſeed, figs, raiſins, tartar, ſoap, eſſences, good wines, and fine fruits. Naples, though ſcarcely half ſo large as London or Paris, is yet more beautiful than either of them. In its neighbourhood are the iſles of Procita, Iſchia, Niſida, and Capri, producing excellent wines and fruits; and on the continent along the ſea ſhore, are the cities of Gaeta, Capua, Amalphi, Salerno, and many more, having, however, very little commerce, though in ſo fine and fertile a country, and having ſuch excellent materials for it, the city of Naples in a great degree engroſſing all the commerce of the weſtern coaſt; yet ſome of thoſe parts, particularly Amalphi, were, in old times, famous for commerce and navigation.

2. Gallipoli is a ſea port, with ſome real commerce, more eſpecially in the exportation of great quantities of oils

3. As is likewiſe Otranto.

4. Bari is a handſome and populous city, with a good trade.

SICILY.

The beautiful iſland of Sicily is far from being ſo well cultivated or peopled as it was in ancient times. Its ſoil is extremely fertile, producing much more corn than its people can conſume at home, with much of which, therefore, it ſupplies Naples and other parts. It alſo abounds in excellent wines, fruits, oil, honey, ſalt, ſaffron, and alſo ſugar, chiefly produced in the neighbourhood of Mount Ætna; alſo ſilk in great quantities, gems, and valuable ſtones, as agate, porphyry, jaſper, alabaſter, lapis lazuli, and marble; being alſo rich in metals and minerals, as gold, ſilver, copper, tin, lead, iron: in general, this charming iſland abounds in all things for delight and ornament in the higheſt degree; its coaſts alſo affording a good fiſhery for tunnies, and its paſtures excellent cattle.

1. Palermo, its capital, has a fortified harbour, carries on a brisk trade, and, according to Dr. Busching, is thought to contain one hundred and twenty thousand inhabitants; having many churches, seventy-four convents, and other charitable foundations.

2. Messina, a strong and beautifully built city and sea port, of considerable commerce, containing about twenty thousand inhabitants, with many churches, convents, and hospitals. Its commerce principally consists in corn, good wine, raw and wrought silk, oils, and fruits, for exportation.

3. Catanea and Syracuse, near Mount Ætna, are both sea ports, but greatly declined, though anciently of great renown.

The small Lipari isles, on the north side of Sicily, have almost all of them vulcanos, or burning mountains, yet some of them are fertile in wines, fruits, &c.

The isle of Malta, and Gozo near it, have no commerce, nor corn enough to supply its inhabitants, which amount to about sixty thousand, above half the year. It is bound, by the grant of the Emperor Charles V. ever since the year 15-9, to hold perpetual enmity and war with all Mahometan countries. Malta is sixty miles in compass, but very rocky, although many ship-loads of earth have been brought to it from Sicily, for meliorating the soil. It has therefore neither wine nor wood sufficient: yet it has cotton, fruits, and honey, good pastures, and considerable fisheries. It is particularly famous for its oranges.

La Valetta, its principal town, is so well fortified that the Turks at length seem to despair of attacking it with success: there are four other small fortified towns lying so near La Valetta, that they may all pass together for one large town. The old decayed town named Malta stands in the middle of the island.

The isle of Gozo, subject to it, is thirteen Italian miles in circumference, strongly fortified, containing three thousand people, and said to be very fertile. There is a third small isle, lying between the other two, and commanding the strait between them, wherefore it is well fortified. This kind of an ecclesiastical and military republic is governed by a grand master and many knights, of which, and of their several migrations, we have sufficiently treated in the body of our work.

SWITZERLAND.

Its entire confederacy, which it is not necessary particularly to describe, has been computed to contain two millions of inhabitants; consisting of nobility, burghers, and peasantry. It is needless to observe, that it is a very mountainous, and, for the most part, barren country. Yet they are not without many manufactures of good and very strong linen, which is exported in considerable quantities, even as far as England: also dimity, thread, lace, and cottons, of the latter of which they make stockings, handkerchiefs and gloves: also a kind of muslins and stuffs for womens wear. They also make divers sorts of silks, velvets, gold and silver brocades, ribbons, several sorts of woollen manufactures, as druggets, calimancoes, camblets, damasks, flannels, blankets. They are said both to bleach and dye very well, and to make paper, hats, and leather for all uses; and in some parts also they make good clocks and watches, fine earthen ware, and many other things. Thus the ruggedness of their country, their scarcity of money, and their far-inland situation, have necessarily prompted them to serve themselves at home with as many necessaries as possible, whereby they may probably gain a balance, though possibly but a small one, from the rest of Europe in their favour.

Switzerland is situated between Germany, France, and Italy, with its navigable lakes and rivers, more especially the Rhine and the Rhone, thereby it may be said to communicate both with the German Ocean and the Mediterranean. the droves of their pack-horses, for the carriage of merchandize

chandize over their rugged hills, utterly impracticable for wheel carriages, are thought to be no small conveniencies for their traffic. Its chief exports are, cheese, butter, sheep, black cattle, horses, and some wine; also diverse of its before named manufactures, and more especially those of the linen kinds. And its imports are, grain from Germany, hemp, flax, wool, salt, American and Asiatic merchandize, and several sorts of manufactures.

The Thirteen Cantons are, in point of importance, viz.

I. The canton of Bern, which forms little less than one-third of the entire Helvetic confederacy, and therefore is by far the largest of all the cantons, and is also the most valuable. Its vales yield an exuberance of grain and fruits; and its higher lands, rich pastures, covered with cattle of all kinds. Its countries bordering on the lakes of Geneva and Neufchâtel yield, more especially, the choicest of wines and fruits. This canton is well cultivated, and very populous; contains thirty-nine towns great and small, and above thirteen hundred villages, and its subjects are computed to amount to four hundred thousand. On ordinary occasions they can send out forty thousand well accoutred men, and on extraordinary ones one hundred thousand. The city of Bern stands on the river Aar, is large, populous, and well built of stone; with many fine public structures.

The whole canton is formed into regiments, both horse and foot: it has an office of ordnance, an arsenal, and an artillery corps. The principal towns along the Lake of Geneva are, Lausanne, a considerable city and university; Vevay, Morges, &c. Arau is noted for being the place of meeting of the Diets of the Protestant Cantons.

II. Zurich, next after Bern, is the largest and most powerful of all the cantons, and is the first of all the thirteen cantons in point of precedence. It is capable of bringing near fifty thousand men into the field, without any detriment either to its agriculture or manufactures.

The city of Zurich is large, polite, opulent, and well fortified; having five churches, an university, and many other fine public edifices. It has all the manufactures and fabricks to be met with in the most flourishing nations; such as woollen cloths and stuffs, crapes, linen, silks, velvets, stockings of silk and cotton, muslins, lawns, gold and silver lace and thread, and founderies for cannon, bells, &c. This canton has many good market-towns, and particularly a large one on the Zurich Lake named Horgen, having a custom-house, and an exchange for merchants.

III. The city and canton of Lucern is the chief of the Popish cantons, and the usual residence of the Pope's Nuncio. The city has a cathedral, several parish churches, and four monasteries: it is a great thoroughfare for merchandize passing to and from Italy, and consequently has some commerce. Here are several lesser towns and many villages.

IV. The small canton of Ury, or Uri, lies in a rugged country, yet abounding in cattle, &c.—Altorff, the seat of government, is well-built, has a provincial armoury and granary, though no otherwise considerable in a commercial sense, though it has several market-towns, and many villages.

V. The little canton of Schuitz, though, on account of its antiquity, giving name to the entire confederacy, has not properly any walled town, but merely a few burghs and villages. It is a rugged country like that of Uri. Switz, its capital, has only one church and three convents.

VI. Underwalden is also a small canton, has fine fruits and cattle, rich pastures, and fertile vallies: it has none but market-towns and villages. Stantz is its capital town, but has nothing memorable.

VII. The very small canton of Zug has fine pastures, a sufficiency of grain, some wine, plenty of fruits, and an immense quantity of chesnuts, with which they supply the neighbouring countries. Zug, its capital, has one parish church, a priory, and two convents; but nothing else worthy of remark.

VIII. The

VIII. The canton of Glaris is a rugged and mountainous country; grafiery is its principal bufinefs, abounding in black cattle, horfes, fheep, cheefe, butter, and tallow. It has fome manufactures of coarfe woollen cloth and cottons. The major part of its people are Calvinifts, the reft Romanifts; whereas the five immediately preceding cantons are entirely Popifh.—Glaris, its capital, has but one church, equally ufed by both religions, and is no way confiderable. Here are feveral other fmall towns and villages.

IX. The fmall canton of Bafil, or Bafel, called alfo by the French Bafle or Bâle, abounds in corn and wine, though in fome parts it is rugged and mountainous, yet it has fine paftures and cattle. It is entirely Proteftant; and has three towns, and twenty-feven parifhes. Bafil, its capital, is the largeft city in all Switzerland, fituated in a fertile country on both fides the Rhine. It is well fortified, has many churches, an univerfity, and other fine public ftructures; and is, in general, a truly polite and very fine city.

In this city moft of the manufactures mentioned in the introduction to Switzerland are carried on; fo that, with its wines and other productions, &c. and likewife its happy fituation between France and Germany, Bafil poffeffes a confiderable traffic. They pretend here, that our prefent rag paper was firft made at Bafil, in the year 1417. Its fmall towns and villages are faid to contain many curiofities and antiquities.

X. The canton of Friburg is almoft environed with the great canton of Bern. It produces plenty of grain and fruits, and alfo fome wine, much black cattle, and cheefe, exported in great quantities to France and other countries. The town of Friburg contains feveral churches and monafteries, though nothing elfe memorable, no more than its other fmall towns and villages, particularly relative to commerce.

XI. The canton of Solothurn, by the French named Soleure, contains two towns and four burghs. It is entirely Popifh, excepting one diftrict, which is Calvinift. The town of Soleure, or Solothurn, its capital, ftands in a fertile and pleafant country, is well fortified, has a collegiate church, a college, two convents, and an arfenal. It is the ufual refidence of the Envoy of France to the Helvetic body; of which, and of its leffer towns, villages, and caftles, there is nothing farther worthy of relation.

XII. The canton of Schafhoufen is entirely Calvinift or Proteftant; is a fmall canton and almoft furrounded by Swabia. It produces corn, good red wine, and pafturage. It has but two towns and nineteen parifhes, befide the capital Schafhoufen, which contains five churches, and an illuftrious fchool: which is all that it is neceffary to be faid of this canton, and its towns and villages.

XIII. The canton of Appenzell produces good corn, wine, cyder, perry, and flax, and has good paftures. According to Dr. Bufching, in this canton there are no towns, (*i. e.* as generally underftood by the Germans, &c. having walls and gates) and but eight burghs and villages, the other parts containing fcattered houfes. The entire canton contains but twenty-three parifhes, whereof four, and alfo two chapels, are Popifh, and nineteen churches are Calvinift. The Calvinift parts of this canton manufacture many thoufand pieces of linen, which are exported to France, Italy, Spain, and Germany; and the thread fpun here is of fuch finenefs as to be fold for upwards of fixteen guilders per pound weight: here alfo are made crape, fuftian, and woollen cloth: and from hence are exported cheefe, cattle, horfes, wood, and pit-coal. The town of Appenzell has one church, two monafteries, an armory, and town-houfe.

XIV. Territories in Switzerland, fubject to two or more of the thirteen cantons jointly, viz.

1. The country of Thurgau borders on the lake of Conftance, or Coftanz, according to Dr. Bufching, is populous, contains fix towns, feveral burghs, and one hundred and feventy villages; has

a third

a third part of its inhabitants Popish, and two-thirds are Calvinists, constituting forty-nine parishes. This country is subject to the eight ancient cantons: it produces grain, wine, and fruits.—Frauenfeld is its chief town, having two churches, one for Calvinists, and one for Romanists. The other numerous small towns and villages contain nothing remarkable.

2. The country of Reinthal, bordering on the Rhine, where that river enters the lake of Constance, is fertile, producing excellent wine and great quantities of chrystal; it has but two towns, and most of its people are Calvinists. It is subject to the nine senior cantons, conjointly with the Abbot of St. Gall.—Rheineck, a small town, is its chief place.

3. The country of Sargans lies on the Rhine, and has two towns, of which Sargans is the best, though not large. It is subject to the eight oldest cantons: is partly Calvinist, and partly Popish. It produces cattle, grain, and fruits.

4. The country of Gaster borders on Sargans, is subject to the cantons of Switz and Glaris; but contains nothing memorable.

5. The country of Utznach is also subject to the said two cantons; as is also the country of Gambs; neither of which are any way memorable.

6. The town and precinct of Rapperschweil, subject to the cantons of Zurich and Bern. The town has some fortifications.

7. The county of Baden lies on the west side of the canton of Zurich, subject to Zurich, Bern, and Glaris; has three towns, and abounds in iron, grain, fruits, and good wine. Baden, its capital, is a fortified town, having two churches, and two convents. It is the usual place for holding the general diets or assemblies of all the cantons; and is mostly Popish, intermixed with some Calvinists. Here are several burghs and many villages.

8. There are many other districts, called here Free Amts, belonging, for the most part, to the eight senior cantons, and containing many small burghs or parochial villages. The fortified towns of Bremgarten and Millengen are also subject to two or more of the thirteen cantons; as are also the districts of Swartsenburg, Morat, Granson, Eschalens, Bellenz, the seven Italian districts, Poleze, the valley of Blegno, the territory on the lake Lugano, formerly belonging to the Dutchy of Milan, in Italy, which has one hundred and six populous burghs and villages; that of Luggarus, partly on the lake Maggiore, and partly on that of Loccarno; that of Menthal, or the valley of Maggia; that of Mendrisio, Engelberg Abbey, and Gersau.

XV. The associated countries and places, viz. such as are always summoned to the legislative diets, in quality of allies, and have a vote therein.

1. The abbey of St. Gall, lying within the town of that name, though divided from it by high walls, to which it has one gate. The Abbot is a Prince of the Empire. His territories within Switzerland are,

First, The territory called of God's House, lying north of the Grisons country, consisting of several villages entirely Popish.

Secondly, The country of Toggenburg, half Popish and half Protestant, having one small town and several parochial villages.

Thirdly, The city of St. Gall, whose inhabitants are Calvinists, having three churches, and a considerable linen trade.

2. The town of Biel, called Bienne by the French, stands near the lake of Biel; and, though within the bishopric of Basil, is however Calvinist, and has a vote in the General Diets, next to the city of St. Gall. It has several villages under its jurisdiction.

3. The Three Unions, or *Trois Droitures*, of the Griſons, border eaſtward on the territories of Venice and Milan. It is a mountainous country, though with many fruitful vallies which produce grain, fruits, cattle, and ſome wine. It has three towns, and many burghs and villages. Here both the Romiſh and Calviniſt religions are equally eſtabliſhed, though thoſe of the latter are more numerous than the former, who are under the Biſhop of Chur or Coir.

Theſe three confederacies, called here, Bunds, form one united republic, and have their proper magiſtrates and other officers, whoſe extraordinary aſſemblies are always held at Chur; where, likewiſe, is kept the record-office of this republic; but the annual general diets are held alternately at Chur, Ilanz, and Davos, when they treat of their domeſtic concerns, as well as their concerns with foreign nations, and with their allies of the Switz republic.

The Griſons maintain no troops; yet, as they furniſh foreign powers with regiments, they are never without officers and ſoldiers of experience: ſo that, on any emergency, all the three Bunds can bring thirty thouſand men into the field.

The principal defence of the moſt part of Switzerland, and more particularly of the Griſons, conſiſts in their narrow paſſes and high mountains; in which a few men can make head againſt a conſiderable army. The Griſons have under their ſubjection the Italian countries of the Valtelin, Chiavenna, Bormio, &c. as their proper vaſſals, though under certain regulations and particular conſtitutions.

Amongſt the Griſons, both the Italian and German dialects are uſed; and Dr. Buſching is of opinion, that the German language is continually growing more and more into vogue, probably proceeding from that language being uſed in their general ſtate aſſemblies and public inſtruments.

Chur, or Coir, is an epiſcopal city, near the uppermoſt Rhine, and is not only the capital of one of the three Bunds, named of God's Houſe, but alſo of the whole republic of the Griſons; it is alſo a fortified city: its neighbourhood is finely diverſified with vineyards, orchards, and corn-fields of ſome extent. The inhabitants of the city are all Calviniſts, and have three churches: for the cathedral, the biſhop's palace, and prebendal houſes, ſtand on an eminence without the city, incloſed with walls and gates. Through Chur paſs merchandize between Germany and Italy.

IV. The country of Valais lies on the ſouth of the canton of Bern, and of the lake of Geneva, and is a confederate of the Switz republic; and, though mountainous, abounds in excellent [illegible] the fineſt fruits. Sitten, called Sion by the French, its chief town, is ſituated near the Upper Rhone, and is a biſhop's ſee, having ſeveral churches and convents.

V. Mulhauſen, a town of the Suntgau in Alſace, about ſix hours journey, ſays Buſching, diſtant from the city of Baſil, is a Calviniſt town of two churches, and has a ſmall dependent village.

VI. The principality of Neuenberg, better known by the French name, of the ſame ſignification, of Neufchâtel, and of Vallangin, is ſituated on the weſt ſide of the county of Burgundy; and though mountainous, its eminences, vales, and levels abound in fine red and white wine, fruits, corn, hemp, and flax. It contains three towns, one burgh, and twenty-five pariſhes, with ten chapels of eaſe, ſixty-four villages, beſide ſcattered houſes. It is moſtly Proteſtant, and the language is a corrupt French. The King of Pruſſia is ſovereign of this principality; but, as being an ally or confederate of the Switz cantons, or rather of the canton of Bern, it has therefore remained ſafe and neuter in the late wars.

The town of Neufchâtel ſtands on the lake of that name, and has two churches, and a gymnaſium or univerſity; and Vallangin is the chief town of its lordſhip.

VII. The very ſmall free republic of Geneva is, by its compacts with Bern and Zurich, reckoned an aſſociate of the Helvetic body.

Geneva

Geneva is a moderately large, handſome, and well-fortified city, at the efflux of the Rhone, out of the extenſive lake of that name, containing about thirty thouſand inhabitants. That river divides it into three unequal parts, which communicate by four bridges. The inhabitants are moſtly Calviniſts, having ſix churches, one chapel, and a celebrated univerſity.—The purity of its air, the politeneſs of its inhabitants,—the great reſort of perſons paſſing through it to and from Germany, France, and Italy,—the number of foreign young gentlemen reſiding in it for academical ſtudies, &c. —and the quantity of its fine manufactures, fabrics, and works of art and curioſity, all contribute to make Geneva exceedingly delightful. Without its walls are ſeveral parochial villages and country-ſeats, in a charming country.

VIII. Laſtly, in the Biſhop of Baſil's temporalities, within Switzerland, lie,

1. The town of Bienne, or Biel.

2. The ſmall town of Neuenſtadt; and alſo ſundry villages: they are all Calviniſts, and allies of the Canton of Bern.

HUNGARY.

This kingdom exports excellent wines, oil, ſaffron; metals of gold, ſilver, iron, copper, lead, and other minerals; alſo cattle, leather, wool, tallow, wax, &c.

1. Preſburg, its modern capital, becauſe ſo near Auſtria, has ſundry churches and convents, but little commerce.

2. Buda, its ancient capital, is much decreaſed in trade and ſplendour; as is alſo Peſt, on the oppoſite ſide of the Danube; but they are both well fortified.

3. Tokai, or Tockay, is a conſiderable town, celebrated for the rich wines in its vicinity, which, in flavour and ſtrength, exceed all the wines in Hungary.

Many of the towns of Hungary, which were formerly eminent, are in our days much decayed, by means of the wars with the Turks; and the greateſt part of their modern trade conſiſts in their excellent mines and various minerals, whereby many of their towns entirely ſubſiſt, and are therefore named Mine-towns. They have likewiſe ſome excellent drugs, and alſo numerous vineyards.

Tranſylvania is uſually reckoned an appendage of Hungary; its chief exports are metals and ſalt to Hungary. It is divided into ſeveral ſmall diſtricts, called palatinates and counties, and its inhabitants are compoſed of Saxons, Sicilians, and Hungarians.

1. Clauſenburg is a large, ſtrong, and populous town.

2. Weiſſenburg, a ſtrong and well built city; the capital.

3. Hermanſtadt is alſo a large, ſtrong, and well built city.

But of any particular commerce in thoſe cities, we can ſay very little.

The province of Sclavonia lies between the rivers Drave and Save. It is divided into ſix counties, viz. Poſegra, Zabrab, Creis, Waraſden, Zreim, and Walpon. The eaſtern part is called Ratzia, and the inhabitants Ratzians.

Carlowitz, its capital, is noted for its good wine.

The country of Croatia lies between the Save and the Adriatic Sea, but has very few, if any towns of commerce in it; for its chief town, Carlſtadt, founded by Charles, Arch-duke of Auſtria, who alſo fortified it, is merely a military ſtation, for the ſecurity of other parts of the Houſe of Auſtria's adjacent dominions.

TURKEY IN EUROPE.

The number of its people is greatly diſproportioned, both to the extent and to the goodneſs of the country. This defect is principally attributed,

Firſt, To its frequent peſtilences.

Secondly, To the practice of polygamy, or their hi ng many wives.

Thirdly, To the frequent wars of the Turks: and,

Fourthly, To the avarice and oppreſſion of the governors of its cities and provinces.

Yet they have ſome fine manufactures, and the inland commerce between its ſeveral provinces is very conſiderable, but is chiefly managed by Jews and Armenians; and their commerce with Chriſtian nations is entirely paſſive, *i. e.* is managed by thoſe nations, viz. Engliſh, Dutch, French, Italian, Swediſh, &c. ſhips, reſorting to the Turkiſh ports, to fetch away different commodities, in exchange for thoſe of their reſpective countries.

The exports of Turkey are ſilk, raw and wrought; carpets, goats-hair, and wool; blue, red, and yellow Morocco leather; camels-hair, cotton-yarn, dimity, burdets, waxed-linen, ſhagreen-ſkins; gums, opium, galls, and other drugs for dying, painting, and phyſic; maſtic, emery, Lemnian bole, pomegranate ſhells, ſponges; dates, almonds, coffee, rhubarb, turpentine, ſtorax, wine, oil, figs, raiſins, mother-of-pearl, box-wood, ſaffron, wax, &c.—And Turkey takes from England much woollen cloth and ſtuffs, tin, lead, iron-ware, ſugar, and other merchandize of both the Eaſt and Weſt Indies; and ſome think alſo bullion.

1. The capital of the Ottoman empire is the illuſtrious and ever-memorable city of Conſtantinople, the Byzantium of the ancients, ſtanding on a ſmall neck of land, at the eaſtern extremity of the province of Romania. Dr. Buſching makes it contain eight hundred thouſand inhabitants, for which computation he quotes Otter; of this number he makes the Greeks to be four hundred thouſand, and the Armenians not half ſo many; the reſt are Turks and Jews: yet other authors, for the moſt part, do not make the people of Conſtantinople to exceed ſix hundred thouſand. The circumference of this city is by ſome ſaid to be fifteen, and by Mr. Tournefort twenty-three miles; to which if we add the ſuburbs, it may be thirty-four miles in compaſs. The ſuburb of Pera is charmingly ſituated, and is the reſidence of the foreign ambaſſadors. They reckon that there are three thouſand ſeven hundred and ſeventy ſtreets, ſmall and great, though moſtly narrow, and very defective in cleanlineſs: and its harbour, which is very large, is capable of holding twelve hundred ſhips. The public buildings, ſuch as the palaces, moſques, bagnios, and caravanſaries, for the entertainment of ſtrangers, are many of them very magnificent, particularly the ſuperb temple of St. Sophia, which is now turned into a moſque, and greatly ſurpaſſes the reſt in grandeur and majeſty.

2. Adrianople, an inland city, is the next, in point of magnitude, to Conſtantinople: it lies in Romania, and its ſituation on the river Maritz has drawn thither people from various nations on a commercial account.

3. Salonichi, the ancient Theſſalonica, is a celebrated trading city, ſituated at the bottom of a bay of the ſame name, and is the capital of Macedonia: beſide its great naval commerce, it has many noble remains of its ancient grandeur. Here are ſaid to be above twenty Jews ſynagogues.

4. Scutari, in Albania, enjoys a large trade, and is well fortified.

5. Dulcigno, on the Adriatic Sea, is a ſtrong town, with a good harbour. Its people have been noted for maritime depredations.

6. Lariſſa,

6. Lariſſa, in Theſſaly, is a conſiderable trading city, on the river Peneus.

7. Livadia is a large populous town on the Gulph of Lepanto, and has ſome conſiderable commerce.

8. Athens has ſeveral traces remaining of its former ſplendour; but its inhabitants, at preſent, do not exceed ten thouſand.

The iſlands of Negropont and Candia are fine countries, but with very little commerce ſince they have been in poſſeſſion of the Turks, any more than the numerous iſles in the Archipelago; wherein, however, excellent wines, and many other rich productions abound, and might be extremely conducive to commerce, if in the poſſeſſion of any people but the Turks; but a minute deſcription of them ſeems ſuperfluous.

The province of Servia, lying to the north of the rivers Danube and Save, does not contain any town of eminence except Belgrade, its capital, a very ſtrongly fortified place, on the frontiers of Hungary, and where the Turks conſtantly keep a numerous garriſon.

To the weſt of Servia lies the province of Bulgaria: its principal towns are Viddin, Sophia, Nicopoli, and Siliſtria; but none of them are remarkable for commerce.

The province of Boſnia is ſituated to the eaſt of Servia, and is governed by a Beglerbeg: its chief town is Bagni-Aluch.

The countries in Europe which are tributary to the Ottoman Porte are,

I. The province of Wallachia, whoſe inhabitants are of the Greek church, lies next the frontiers of Poland.

1. Targoviſta, its capital, is a town of good trade.

2. Buchoreſt, a ſtrong place, the uſual reſidence of its tributary Prince, called the Waywode. It is an archiepiſcopal ſee; and herein is an academy for the ſons of perſons of quality.

II. Moldavia, next to Wallachia, has alſo a tributary Prince, called the Waywode, or Hoſpodar; and the Greek church is the prevailing religion.

1. Jaſſy, its capital, ſtands on the river Pruth, and is a ſpacious and ſtrong town. It is in a neighbourhood abounding in wine.

2. Choczim is a ſtrong frontier town on the river Nieſter.

There are ſeveral colonies or tribes of Tartars, even in Europe, who are ſettled in a winding track of country along the Black Sea and the Sea of Azoph, from the moſt northern branch of the mouth of the Danube to the river Don, being parts of ancient European Scythia. Some of theſe tribes wander about in hords or clans, whilſt others are ſettled in towns and villages. Some alſo are immediately dependent on the Ottoman Porte, and others are ſubject to the Cham of Crim Tartary, who is himſelf a vaſſal of the Grand Signior. Dr. Buſching acknowledges, That he has not been able to procure any credible accounts of the reſpective limits of the Turkiſh ſovereignty; and therefore he chuſes to leave that point in ſuſpence, rather than to determine blindly; as we ſhall do likewiſe.

Beſſarabia, a country along the weſt ſide of the Black Sea, is alſo called Budziac Tartary. The people are moſtly wandering hords along the Nieſter; their uſual food being the fleſh of their oxen and horſes, cheeſe and milk, particularly that of mares.

1. Kili, or Kilia Nova, is alſo one of their beſt towns, at the mouth of the northern or largeſt branch of the Danube, where its people are employed in the making of ſalt.

2. Bender, a ſtrong fortification on the Nieſter.

3. Oczakow is a ſtrong place at the mouth of the Nieper.

The European Nagay Tartars are wandering hords between the Nieper and the mouth of the river Don.

The Crimea is a peninſula nearly of ſhape and magnitude to the Morea. Its beſt town is named Precop, a ſtrong place, on the iſthmus which joins that peninſula to the continent.

Caffa is ſtill a large trading ſea-port town, and whilſt the Genoeſe held it, viz. till it was taken by the Turks, in the year 1474, its commerce exceeded even that of Conſtantinople itſelf. It has ſtill five or ſix thouſand houſes, and is well garriſoned; but its trade is much decayed.

Baċtchéſerai, on the weſt ſide of this peninſula, is the Cham's place of reſidence, where he has a large palace; and, though the town be unfortified, it is the beſt built of any in this peninſula.

☞ It is here neceſſary to remark, that ſince the period at which the above account of European Turkey was written, conſiderable changes have happened with reſpect to the poſſeſſions of the Ottoman Porte, eſpecially in relation to the Crimea, or Taurica Cherſoneſus; which, at the treaty of Kainardgi, concluded in 1774, was ceded to the Ruſſians, and has ever ſince been in their poſſeſſion; though it is now again reclaimed by the Sublime Porte: on which account theſe two powerful empires are now, in all probability, on the eve of a bloody and expenſive war.

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